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Martinez wins NL Cy Young Award Sports, Back Page



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The scandal of Queen Victoria Weekender, Page 11

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Wanted: On two-year anniversary of Rabin assassination: PM calls for reconciliation

New Mossad chief By AVINOHAM BAR-YOSEF Mossad head Danny Yatom appeared again before the Ciechanover Commission this week to corroborate his version of the failed assassination of Hamas official Khaled Mashal in Jordan on September 25.



Mourning at yesterday's memorial at Yitzhak Rabin's gravesite on Mt. Herzl are (from left) Dalia Rabin-Pelosoff, Leah Rabin, Yuval Rabin, and his wife Tali.

AGENDA By AVINOHAM BAR-YOSEF Mossad head Danny Yatom appeared again before the Ciechanover Commission this week to corroborate his version of the failed assassination of Hamas official Khaled Mashal in Jordan on September 25.

By ELLI WOHLGELER and LIAT COLLINS While former prime minister Yitzhak Rabin was remembered in memorial ceremonies throughout the country yesterday, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu used the occasion to urge national reconciliation, with words that bordered on a call for a unity government.

Netanyahu passed by the seat of Leah Rabin when he arrived, and the two exchanged a brief, cold handshake but did not speak. Earlier in the day, tens of thousands of pupils from the central region and the North thronged Tel Aviv's Kikar Rabin at noon for a ceremony also attended by Rabin's family.

Netanyahu to invite Barak for unity talks

By LIAT COLLINS Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu plans to invite Labor Party leader Ehud Barak for a "conciliation talk" which could be a step toward creating a national unity government, Third Way MK Yehuda Harel said yesterday.

2 WTC bombers convicted

NEW YORK - A US federal jury convicted Ramzi Yousef yesterday of masterminding the 1993 World Trade Center bombing in the hopes of killing as many Americans as possible.

A Secret Service agent testified that Yousef had boasted about orchestrating the scheme and said he regretted that more people had not been killed. The agent said that Yousef had hoped one of the building's two towers would fall on its twin kiliog at least 250,000 victims.

Security Council condemns Iraq

By MARILYN HENRY and news agencies NEW YORK - The UN Security Council voted unanimously yesterday to condemn Iraq for refusing to cooperate with UN arms-inspection teams, saying its violations of council resolutions threaten international peace and security.

take further unspecified measures if Iraq does not comply with demands to withdraw a ban on Americans working on inspection teams. Iraq denounced the resolution.

Americans on the UN weapons-inspection team if the council approved the resolution. The US, Egypt, France and other nations on the 15-member council expressed their compassion for the Iraqi people.

Evangelical Christians supply major source of UJA donations

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN An Evangelical Christian group has emerged as one of the leading contributors to the United Jewish Appeal in recent years, and its leader claims it has become the single largest donor to the UJA in 1997.

the group is currently the largest donor in Chicago, that it raised \$2.5 million last year, then "promised to double it" this year. UJA officials could not say whether they were the largest donor overall.

Soviet Union to Israel, and is now involved in a project in conjunction with the Joint Distribution Committee to help feed and care for elderly Jews who choose to remain in the FSU.

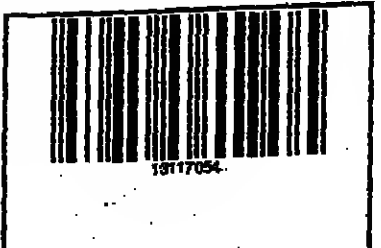
Axworthy distances himself from Iraq deal

By JAY BUSHINSKY Visioning Canadian Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy has been distancing himself from an estimated \$1 billion in contracts with Iraq worked out recently by a high-powered trade delegation from Canada.

Manufacturing Ltd. executives dated February 12, 1996. The report said Axworthy outlined the avenues available to Canadac to consummate the deal and pointed out the obstacles in its way, particular UN sanctions against Iraq.

Militants kill three in Egypt

QENA - Suspected Moslem militants shot dead two policemen and a farmer yesterday, after an ambush in the railway station of Nag Hammadi, security sources said.



1997 The Jerusalem Post... Griffey Jr. unanimous as AL MVP... VALLED AMERICAN... Griffey Jr. unanimous as AL MVP... NEW YORK (AP) - Ken Griffey Jr. won the National League MVP award...

NEWS

in brief

Secret Shamgar findings to be released today

The Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee is expected to release today part of the Shamgar Commission's secret findings with regard to the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin.

Meanwhile, MKs Haim Dayan (Tsomet) and Avner Shabi (National Religious Party) have started a petition demanding a state commission of inquiry into Avishai Rabin's function in the General Security Service. Dayan has also filed a police complaint against Rabin on charges of incitement to murder, incitement to violence, and spreading the pictures of Rabin in SS uniform.

Jay Bushinsky and Liat Collins

Scuffle outside Yigal Amir's prison

A scuffle between left- and right-wing protesters took place yesterday outside the Beersheba jail housing Yigal Amir. Two Meretz activists tried to grab a shofar being blown by a member of a radical group headed by Avigdor Eskin. Police moved in and detained the Meretz activists.

Meretz leader MK Yossi Sarid later criticized police for questioning the two activists rather than anyone in Eskin's group, which was expressing support for Amir. A police spokesman said the police intervened to prevent violence. The spokesman said both sides were warned not to create a disturbance, but one was arrested.

3 held for trying to erect 'Altalena' memorial

Police in Tel Aviv held Noam Federman, Tiran Pollack and Baruch Marzel for questioning yesterday after they tried to erect a monument to victims of the Altalena on a beach at noon, while thousands gathered to memorialize Yitzhak Rabin in Rabin Square.

The right-wing extremists were accompanied by other activists at the Frischman Beach, where they tried to set up a monument, which city workers dismantled. Altalena was a ship carrying arms to the Irgun in 1948, which was shelled off the Tel Aviv coast by an IDF unit under Rabin's command.

IAF strikes Jibril base

IAF warplanes struck yesterday at the base of Ahmed Jibril's PFLP-General Command near Nuemeh south of Beirut. The air force has hit the fortified underground bunker several times in the past few weeks.

Palestinian hit by rubber bullet unconscious

A 9-year-old Palestinian boy hit by a rubber bullet in the head during clashes with IDF troops outside Bethlehem on Tuesday was unconscious and in critical condition yesterday, his doctors said. Witnesses said the boy, Ali Jawarisha, was shot from a distance of about 15 meters by a soldier chasing stone throwers in the Ajda refugee camp near Rachel's Tomb. The IDF said the soldier had aimed at an older stone thrower, and that Jawarisha apparently ran into the line of fire.

Settlers planning Har Homa rally

The Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza is planning a rally of support for Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, to be held in two weeks. The rally's slogan would be, "Yes to the Land of Israel, no to the destruction of the Land of Israel," with Jerusalem's Har Homa being considered a possible venue. Spokesman Yechiel Leiner said Sunday the council leaders have been considering a rally for some time to strengthen Netanyahu's stand and prevent him from bowing to US pressure.

UN to resume debate on settlements today

MARILYN HENRY and HILLET KUTTLER

NEW YORK — The UN General Assembly will resume its "emergency" special session on Israeli settlements today, debating a draft resolution, initiated by the Palestinian mission, that would again condemn Israel for building at Har Homa.

The debate is the third in an emergency session that was convened in April and again in July in an effort to compel Israel to stop settlement activity.

The US has twice vetoed measures in the Security Council that would have condemned Har Homa. Israel had been condemned twice by the General Assembly, whose resolutions are not binding. The special session was convened under the terms of the 1950 "Uniting for Peace" resolution, which originated during the Korean conflict, when the US and Soviet Union routinely thwarted each other in the Security Council.

It was intended to bypass the council when it hit a stalemate and was unable to promote the UN mission of "maintaining international peace and security."

In addition to condemning Har Homa, the Palestinians' draft reso-

lution again raises the prospect of a conference on the Fourth Geneva Convention to enforce international rules for the protection of civilians in wartime.

This is intended to refer to Palestinians in Israeli-held territory, including Jerusalem. Such a conference was considered highly unlikely. Switzerland previously canvassed the signatories to the convention, and only 29 states formally expressed their support for such a meeting. The draft also calls for Israel to provide public information about "goods produced or manufactured in the illegal settlements," which hints at a boycott of products.

UN Ambassador Dore Gold said he has met with 55 other representatives in the past week to lobby against the measure. The Europeans are opposed to the initiative, Gold said, adding however that this could change due to Arab pressure.

In a speech to a forum sponsored by Middle East Insight magazine, Gold said the Palestinian effort contradicts Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's September 9, 1993 letter to prime minister Yitzhak Rabin in which he promised that all differences would be resolved through negotiations only.

PM applauds vote against primaries

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday applauded the Likud convention's decision to scrap the primaries as having been reached "in an independent and democratic fashion."

He said that the "decisions were made solely according to the delegates' free choice," and promised an investigation into any alleged irregularities. He himself did not cast a ballot.

Despite Netanyahu's upbeat statement, the consensus in the party yesterday was that the delegates, who are also central committee members, had put Netanyahu and other Likud members in their places.

They did not fully grant Netanyahu the sort of victory which they felt he wished for, and they severely curtailed his freedom in the party. They also deprived ministers of the primary system that they favored and which conferred great advantage on incumbents and on the party's rich and famous.

Voting on the primary system got under way only in the early morning hours.

Things did not go smoothly, and the delays frayed delegates' nerves to the extent that some interpreted the long, tedious hours of waiting on line as a dirty trick aimed at keeping older delegates away from the ballot boxes.

It was also assumed that those who would leave without voting, would tend to be Landau supporters. Indeed it looked as though more than half the delegates didn't stick around to cast a ballot.

Some tempers flared after some voting forms handed out had already been checked off in favor of a resolution tabled by Dolgin, who proposed replacing the primaries, with reverting back to having the central committee select Knesset candidates.

Many charged that mafia tactics were being employed and that they were being taken for fools.

Landau's proposal, to dump the primaries without immediately deciding an alternative way of

choosing Knesset candidates, won about 60% of the vote. Precise figures were expected only in a few days.

While the delegates did go for the Landau compromise, they also instituted other significant changes in party rules. The changes were geared to giving the party supervisory powers over Netanyahu, to returning clout to party institutions and to breathing new life into neglected Likud branches.

This was considered an outcome which Netanyahu would not cherish. He may have wanted to impose more discipline on the Knesset faction by doing away with the primaries. But what Netanyahu ended up with was a set of restrictions

which oblige him to obtain approval from the Likud secretariat and executive for senior appointments and significant policy decisions.

Dolgin said yesterday that the "incident of the marked ballot," and he claimed there had only been one such sheet, had failed the cause. The party later denied that any marked ballots had been handed out.

But the failure was only technical, Dolgin said. "I am not displeased with the result because the primaries are out and their precise replacement is of minor significance. Our basic aim has been achieved and the decision was made at this convention session, as we insisted all along," Dolgin said.

Life will be unpleasant for Netanyahu

ANALYSIS

By SARAH HONIG

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is plainly in big trouble. Not so much because ministers and leading MKs are saying bad things about him; he is not one of them, rising outside the party hierarchy — almost despite it. The Likud princes never liked him. He was never flesh of their flesh.

But the fact that he crossed so many of them the way he did, that he is left more alone than ever, is politically meaningful.

The fact that more Likud higher-ups are saying into microphones what they reserved only a few days ago for private conversations is equally meaningful.

The fact that what they say is so outspoken, with no punches pulled, has its own dynamic, as does the sheer quantity of the attacks. It has become almost fashionable among the Likud elite to hit out at Netanyahu.

All this cannot but erode his standing, first in the smaller circle of influence within his own party, later among Likud voters, and finally in the general public.

At first, critics like Ze'ev Begin could be dismissed as malcontents with their own axe to grind

and frustrations to vent. This is no longer so. Begin is no longer alone in swiping at Netanyahu, although he does it with typical aim for the jugular.

He is now joined by odd bedfellows, from Uzi Landau to Meir Sheerit and Michael Eitan. Limor Livnat has long been on Netanyahu's wrong side, but the loyal Yehoshua Matza wasn't, and now he too feels slighted.

Even worse for Netanyahu is the accumulated weight of all this contributes to an unrestrainable momentum. It is no longer reason inside the Likud to attack Netanyahu. The flood gates have been opened.

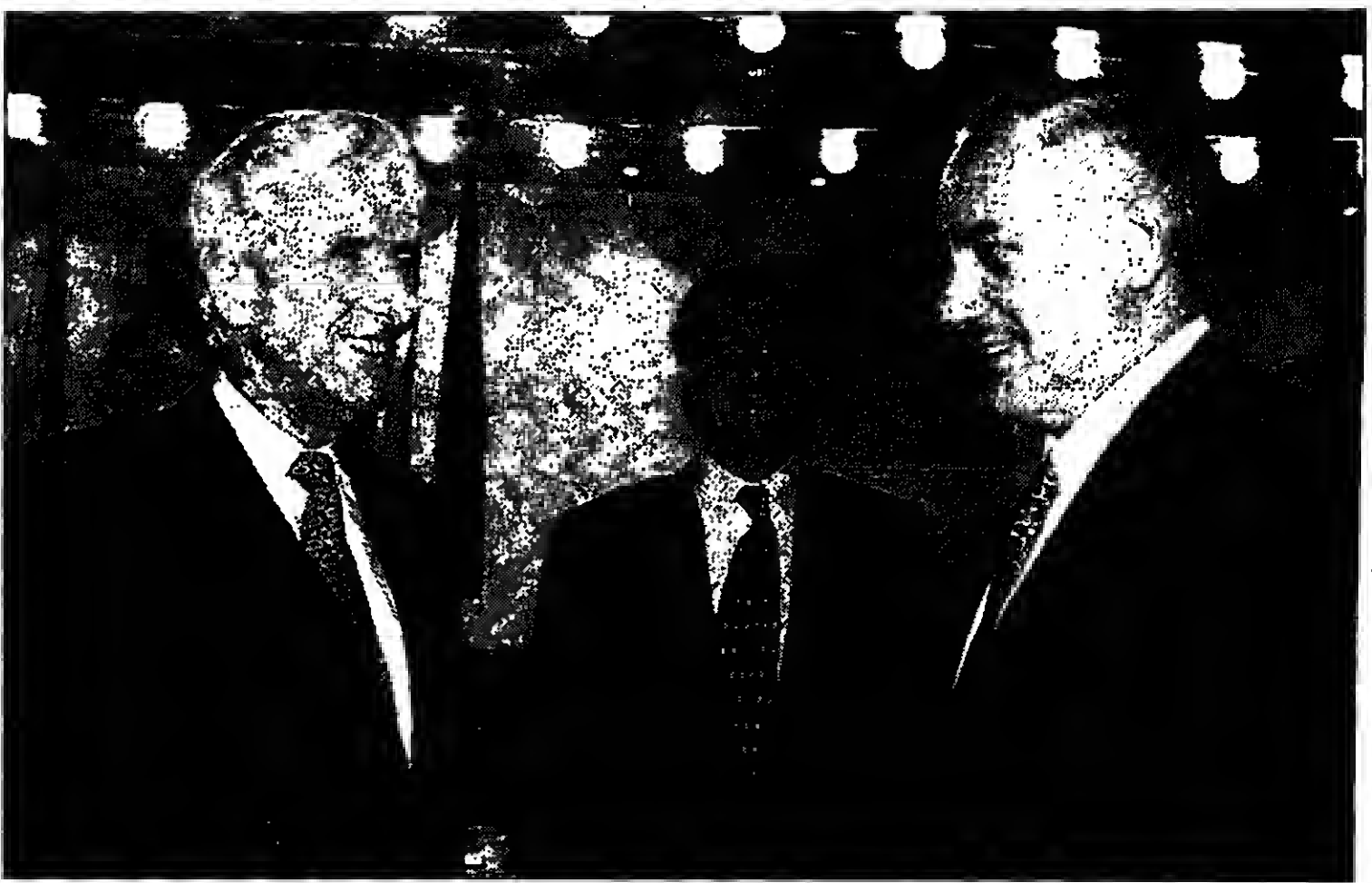
Netanyahu can still console himself with the fact that he is the darling of the central committee rank and file. But the rank and file can be swayed by moods and political trends, and the fact that Netanyahu did not score quite the sort of win

which the ministers say he was after, indicates that the central committee, as it has so often in the past, again showed its basic common sense.

The committee really did not want the primaries, and Netanyahu tapped into its alienation. The committee wanted to regain the clout it possessed when it was charged with putting together the Knesset slate. But the committee demonstrated in the wee hours of yesterday morning that it is not putty in anyone's hands. It scrapped the primaries, but voted for a compromise which would put power in the hand of Likud forums. This includes but also the party secretariat and executive.

Netanyahu is sure not to like the need for party approval of major policy decisions and senior appointments. He was unmistakably put under the supervision of Likud institutions and will be obliged to turn to his neglected party for ratification of almost anything he does.

The constrictions which some Likud hawks once sought to apply to prime minister Yitzhak Shamir have now been imposed on Netanyahu. Life will be very unpleasant for him in the Likud from now on.



EU President and Luxembourg's Foreign Minister Jacques Poos (left) meets with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

Levy waiting for invitation to Doha

By JAY BUSHINSKY and HILLET KUTTLER

Qatar's foreign minister evidently holds the key to his Israeli counterpart's presence at the fourth annual Middle East and North Africa Economic Conference, which is scheduled to convene in Doha on Sunday.

An aide to Foreign Minister David Levy indicated yesterday that unless Levy receives a formal invitation from the Qatari foreign minister requesting a one-on-one meeting, Israel's delegation would be headed by a lower-echelon official.

Levy evidently has been troubled by the boycott of the conference by several states, including Egypt, and especially by the fact that those that announced their participation — Jordan, Kuwait and Oman — are not

sending their foreign ministers. (Despite this, the US and Canada will be represented in Doha by their governmental equivalents of Levy: Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy.)

Levy's decision, which is expected to be announced today or tomorrow, also is linked to the projected meeting of Israeli and Palestinian joint committee chairmen in Jericho next Monday, a gathering to have been attended by Levy and the deputy head of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas.

Meanwhile, the US's special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross said yesterday that the US administration is "disappointed" with Egypt's decision to boycott the conference. In an appearance before a forum of Middle East Insight mag-

azine, Ross said that while allies may disagree, "we have to find a way to work toward our common objective."

"The purpose is to insure that the Middle East is not only at peace but also is a region that doesn't lag behind anybody economically," he said. The Doha conference is "not a favor to anybody in the region, [it is] part of that process" of regional integration and economic development that the US has been advocating, he added.

The US still is hoping that representatives from the Egyptian business sector might attend, underscoring the state for economic, business and agricultural affairs Stuart Eizenstat said yesterday. Cairo's decision came as no surprise given the deterioration in the peace process, he said. (A full report will appear in

tomorrow's Jerusalem Post.)

Egyptian Ambassador to the US Ahmed Maher said yesterday that "we consider this economic cooperation as part of the peace process, and everything else has to go forward. And we've seen in the last few weeks that instead of going forward, the Netanyahu government has gone backward."

Efforts to revive and advance the Middle East peace process were one of the main issues Levy discussed with the current EU president, Jacques Poos, who also serves as Luxembourg's foreign minister. Levy anticipated Poos' departure for Damascus in the company of the EU's peace envoy, Mignel Moratinos, when he said, "If Damascus wants to return to the talks, I am prepared to meet the Syrian emissaries at any time and in any place."

PM to meet Blair in London today

By JAY BUSHINSKY

PM Binyamin Netanyahu will be racing the clock in London today conferring with government and opposition leaders, addressing members of parliament and delivering a dinner speech to the JIA.

His timetable was compressed due to a last-minute postponement of his departure from last night until this morning, due to the uncertain aftermath of the Likud party convention.

Netanyahu meets soon after his arrival with the Liberal Democrats' Paddy Ashdown. Later, he holds a working lunch with Foreign Minister Robin Cook and a session with PM Tony Blair.

Britain's Jewish community appeared to be polarized over how to

receive Netanyahu. British Friends of Peace Now called for a demonstration while the World Union of Jewish Students offered a warm welcome.

An aide to Netanyahu said that the JIA dinner was sold out. The most dramatic and potentially crucial event on Netanyahu's schedule is a meeting tomorrow in London with US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright. At the meeting, he is expected to update her about the peace process, and to convey ideas for her to relay to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat in Geneva on Saturday.

Netanyahu is scheduled to take off for the US on Sunday to address the General Assembly of the Councils of Jewish Federations in Indianapolis and spend three days in Los Angeles.

Mualem: Peace can be reached within months

By HILLET KUTTLER

WASHINGTON — If Israel returns to bilateral negotiations at the point they were suspended last year, a peace agreement could be reached in a matter of months, Syria ambassador to the US Walid Mualem said yesterday.

"We want to resume from where we left off. This is our serious position because if we do resume from where we left off, we can achieve agreement on both tracks, Syria and Lebanon," Mualem said.

In a panel discussion sponsored by Middle East Insight magazine, Mualem asked rhetorically whether Israel has "an illusion" that Damascus would agree to start the talks anew, as Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu

demands, or would agree to peace without a complete withdrawal to the pre-June 4, 1967 line.

"[It is] there an illusion in Israel that there will be one Syrian who will agree to one inch less of a full withdrawal from the Golan?"

Israel's UN ambassador Dore Gold stated that there had been "contacts" between the sides on restarting the talks. He refused to elaborate, saying "I won't say whether it was through the Americans, Europeans, whatever. But there were contacts."

US special Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross told the gathering that he has received assurances from Netanyahu and Syrian President Hafez Assad that they wish to resume the negotiations.

Party leaders rap Netanyahu

By SARAH HONIG

While some Likud higher-ups yesterday openly called for Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's replacement as party leader, hardly anyone in the party leadership rose to defend him. Only Health Minister Yehoshua Matza gave a reserved and qualified denial that Netanyahu was duplicitous in the events leading up to and during the convention.

The silence of the other ministers was " thunderous and resounding," as one Likud minister said.

Attacks came from such veteran Netanyahu antagonists as MKs Ze'ev Begin and Dan Meridor. But Netanyahu also drew fire from Communications Minister Limor Livnat, Science Minister Michael Eitan, Likud Knesset faction chairman Meir Sheerit, Likud executive chairman MK Uzi Landau, and even Matza was not wholly uncritical.

Most acerbic of all was Begin. The Likud faces "electoral downfall and utter ruination if it doesn't in time replace its leader," he said. "The Likud today is being run by a group of power-hungry, power-intoxicated, unrestrained people, headed by a man who misled and deceived his colleagues."

Meridor, who resigned as finance minister nearly five months ago, said that "the Likud has one central problem and it is the prime minister. He needs to be replaced. The Likud must face up to facts and draw necessary conclusions."

However Meridor ruled out leaving the Likud and forming a new party.

Livnat said that "Netanyahu made great mistakes when he set out against the very primaries he brought to the Likud, when he did not take a public stand, when he did not say what he thinks, when he let his people do things he didn't openly sanction, and when he foiled compromise at the convention."

But she also said she would not leave the party, since "after all I wholeheartedly agree with the policies of the Netanyahu government."

A clearly exhausted and frustrated Eitan lamented the fact that "instead of coming out of this convention more united than we had been, we are emerging with far greater divisions."

Landau said that the victorious resolution he sponsored "will defuse the bitterness and the potentially explosive situation in the Likud. The surgery went well and the patient will survive. We have returned the authority to run the Likud to the activists and the leadership will no longer be able to go its own way and ignore those it doesn't want to hear."

Sheerit disagreed. "The medicine could kill the patient. The feeling among ministers and MKs is that Netanyahu promised them one thing and did the opposite. He promised to put off vote on the primaries but didn't deliver, and the anger is enormous."


Matza alone found it possible to express something close to a vague defense of Netanyahu. He insisted that he "has no reason not to believe Netanyahu. I have no proof that he willfully and deliberately deceived us."

But he confessed to "feeling deeply ashamed of the scenes at the convention, of the vote at 3 a.m., and of the fact that some 1,400 delegates did not take part. This rings loud alarm bells for the Likud."

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club took place yesterday at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. P.F. George Khayil Abou of Nazareth addressed the club.

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PM, Barak call for national conciliation

By LIAT COLLINS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu repeated his call for national conciliation from the Knesset podium at yesterday's memorial session for Yitzhak Rabin.

Labor Party leader Ehud Barak said he stretched out "both hands," nonetheless his speech was full of barbed allusions to Netanyahu, whom he accused of playing a part in the incitement that preceded the assassination.

The session opened with a minute of silence. And despite the fears, the quiet and dignity of the occasion were maintained throughout, although MKs Yael Dayan, Avi Yehzekel, Hagai Merom (all Labor), and Anat Matar (Meretz) walked out silently as Netanyahu began his speech.

Some 1,000 guests were present, including diplomats, judges, religious leaders, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak and police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz. Leah Rabin, her children and grandchildren sat in the center of the visitors' gallery, opposite a large picture of the slain premier.

Netanyahu named MKs from both opposition and coalition he said could be "one team. To all of you, I turn on this day to unite around what we have in common, which is so much greater than what sets us apart: the desire to bring peace and security to this country and those who dwell here. And I turn in particular to Yitzhak Rabin's close friends, my political foes, who are grieving the loss more than anyone. I stretch out a hand in peace and in conciliation.

"And I put myself first in this. First to say that I, like others, must do soul-searching. First to stretch out my hand. First to say: 'Let's go

together in the path of dialogue, the path of conciliation.'"

In his speech, Barak said: "From here, I stretch out both my hands for national conciliation. And I repeat

my call at Saturday night's memorial rally in Kikar Rabin for all of us to unite and overcome all the barriers. We have no other people and no other country."

But in a reference to Netanyahu's words, he said: "Conciliation is not just talk. It is actions, commitment, and responsibility. All of us, from all colors of the political rainbow, must commit today to never - ever - incite one against the other from ramparts and balconies. We won't stand at intersections and in town squares surrounded by the symbols of death, blood, or reason. That we will never whisper divisive and inflammatory words in the ears of the simple people or religious leaders."

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer digressed from his written speech to answer Netanyahu and Barak: "I got the impression from the prime minister's and opposition leader's words of a willingness for conciliation and I wait for tomorrow for the continuation of this call."

Speaker Dan Tichon started the theme of national unity: "A feeling of national responsibility and commitment makes me call - here and now - for a national unity government. A national conciliatory government."

President Ezer Weizman made a connection between the acts for peace of Rabin and Egyptian president Anwar Sadat and the way both were slain by "evil fanatics" from among their own people. He ended his speech with a quote from Rabin moments before he was killed: "Peace is the future."

Deputy Speaker Nawaf Massalha (Labor), who spoke on behalf of the non-Jewish population, recalled in an emotional address how his children had grieved the loss of a Jewish fighter.

An extraordinary day

By LIAT COLLINS

As MKs stepped into the Knesset yesterday, they were reminded that the day was no ordinary one. Opposite the entrance, surrounded by flowers and six candles, was a huge picture of Yitzhak Rabin. On the table underneath was a memorial book signed one by one by members of the House, employees, and Knesset guards.

Here was the sought-after sign that Israel is united in grief, and that across the political spectrum, Rabin the man is still missed by those who worked with him.

"Two years without Yitzhak Rabin, a friend, commander, and leader," wrote Moleket leader Rehavim Ze'evi. "I walked with him in the fields of the Land of Israel, to [military] operations, and to establish settlements. I loved him even after he became a political foe. Remember and grieve."

It was a theme repeated by ministers, opposition MKs, and those who knew him.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, returning from the memorial service at Mount Herzl, wrote he was a "partner to the pain" and inscribed a wish "for conciliation among all parts of the people."

Despite Netanyahu's wish, the efforts of Speaker Dan Tichon to bring about a meeting between the prime minister and Leah Rabin in his office before the session were in vain.

"I want the forgiveness my own way," Rabin told Tichon.

Netanyahu and his wife and President Ezer Weizman and his wife met with Tichon on their own. Weizman spoke of the air force anniversary celebrations. Netanyahu went over the notes for his speech.

In the afternoon, the Knesset synagogue held a memorial service in the presence of the chief rabbis. Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau called for the memorial day to be the day on which all Israel rises above politics and unites so that such a thing never happen again, and said the Left should answer Netanyahu's call for national conciliation.

In the morning, the first meeting of the Goodwill Forum was held, at the initiative of MK Rafi Edri (Labor). Some 10 MKs from various parties were present. Edri spoke of the need for tolerance and democracy.

After the special session, Leah Rabin met with Tichon and Weizman. "It's a very hard day for us," she said. "It's even difficult for us to step into this House because he's not here."



Young people crowd around the monument marking the site of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination during a memorial ceremony yesterday. (Itan Osendryver/Israel Sun)

Milo: 'We're all in the same boat'

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

"No conspiracy theory, plot or unfounded talk will succeed in distracting attention from the awful murder which took place here, and from the lesson we must all learn from it," Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo said yesterday at a memorial for Yitzhak Rabin.

Tens of thousands of pupils from the central region and the north thronged to Rabin Square at noon for the ceremony also attended by Rabin's family.

"You must remember one thing," Milo said. "We're all in the same boat. Whoever drills holes in it, will ultimately sink with it."

He urged the youngsters to "look forward from this square which we named after Rabin, and hope that

his legacy - peace - will come true so that we can live here with no wars, in the Israel that Rabin fought for and worked for creating peace and a better future."

IDF Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak called for a "relentless war on the dangerous radical fringe groups gnawing at the unity and quality of our society." He also called for keeping the army out of political debate.

"Our strength is not measured by the thickness of our tanks' steel or accuracy of our missiles. Our strength lies in the quality of the society we live in," Shabak said. "This quality lies in pluralism based on unity, respect and tolerance."

Rabin's grandson, Michael Rabin, said he remembers "the curses, the slanders, the posters and the horrible comparisons which made Grandfather's last days so difficult."

Rabin repeated the words of his grandfather in a speech he gave just moments before being assassinated: "I've always believed most of the people want peace, and are ready to take a risk for peace. You, by coming to this rally, prove it, together with many others who didn't make it. The nation really does want peace, and opposes violence. Violence is the undermining of the basis of Israeli democracy; it must be denounced and isolated. It is not the way of the State of Israel."

"Please remember him the way he was in his life. It was for us he wanted peace, and for peace he was murdered," Michael Rabin said.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

The official memorial day for prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, marked yesterday, produced abundant commentary in the Hebrew press.

"We do not have the vocabulary to phrase the tragic and the heroic of his life," Hava Pinhas-Cohen writes in *Ma'ariv*.

"We must not accept the claim that no political assassination is a capability exclusive to the right wing," states Matti Golan in *Yediot Aharonot*, adding that any denial of the fact that there are inciters in the Left is dangerous.

Tuesday with a vote to abandon the primaries after two days of turmoil, leaving many MKs and ministers defeated.

"There is not a minister who came out of the convention unharmed or not detesting the prime minister," writes *Ma'ariv*'s Shalom Yenshabalmi, adding that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has become the almighty leader. "Netanyahu has won."

Yosef Lapid, also in *Ma'ariv*, claims that Netanyahu has come out of the convention much weaker than he went in, "because a leader cannot build himself from a rebellion in his party,

from a rupture in the leadership and from corruption of the party's reputation in the eyes of the public."

Monday's "stormy event was staged" in the same way that the Bolshevik unity demonstration was staged (in *Tuesday*), claims *Ha'aretz*'s Yossi Verter, referring to the calls of contempt for the prime minister on Monday followed by calls of support a day later. He adds that the reputation of the Likud as an "open, advanced and free party will suffer on election day."

"There is no use in denying it any longer; a split hovers over the Likud," writes *Yediot's* Bina Barzel.

Kissinger's visit

"Dr. Henry Kissinger came to visit during a week when all the issues regarding the arrangements with the Palestinians seemed to vanish into thin air," writes *Ha'aretz*'s Gidon Samet. The former secretary of state was guest of the Rabin Center for Research in Israel.

Yosef Halif in *Ma'ariv* reveals that Yitzhak Rabin confided in Kissinger that he was willing to stop the Oslo process if it turned out that its implementation might deprive Israel of its essential security areas in the West Bank.

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The Jerusalem Post

naries

sh oblige him to obtain approval

the Likud secretariat and exc-

for senior appointments and ex-

significant policy decisions.

olgin said yesterday that he

claimed there had only been one

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Dofgin said. "I am not dis-

with the result because

primaries are out and there

ise replacement is of minor

importance. Our basic aim has

n achieved and the decision

s made at this convention re-

as we insisted all along.

Party

eaders rap

Netanyahu

By SARAH MORRIS

While some Likud higher-ups

berday openly called for Prime

minister Benjamin Netanyahu's

placement as party leader, many

one in the party leadership are

defend him. Only Health

nister Yehoshua Maza gave a

erved and qualified denial that

Netanyahu was duplicitous in the

only leading up to and during the

convention.

The silence of the other ministers

is "thunderous and resounding,"

one Likud minister said.

Attacks came from such venues

Netanyahu antagonists as MKs

Yeh Begin and Dan Meridor. The

Netanyahu also drew fire from

communications Minister Lavi

vran, Science Minister Meir

chan, Likud Knesset faction lead-

er Meir Scheiner. Likud conven-

er and former MK Uri Landau, and

former MK Maza was not wholly mes-

sured.

Most sceptic of all was Begin,

the Likud faces "electoral obsta-

cles and other reasons if it doesn't

replace its leader," he said.

The Likud today is being run by a

group of power-hungry, power-

thirsty, unscrupulous people

led by a man who mistook an

assassinated his colleagues.

Meridor, who resigned finance

minister nearly five months ago

to phrase the tragic and the heroic

of his life," Hava Pinhas-Cohen writes

in *Ma'ariv*.

"We must not accept the claim

that no political assassination is a

capability exclusive to the right

wing," states Matti Golan in

Yediot Aharonot, adding that any

denial of the fact that there are

inciters in the Left is dangerous.

Likud turmoil

The Likud convention ended on

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

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Imprisoned Gaza prof. hospitalized

By STEVE RODAN

A Gaza professor detained without charges since July after asking students about Palestinian Authority corruption in an examination, has been hospitalized.

Fathi Subuh, an English professor at Al Azhar University, was taken to Shifa Hospital on October 30 after losing consciousness in Gaza Central Prison. The 43-year-old was brought to the prison in August after he held a hunger strike to protest a 40-day interrogation.

A Palestinian source said Subuh collapsed from what was apparently a tension-related condition. The source said Subuh was well-treated and that he was visited daily by relatives.

Last month, the Palestinian High Court dismissed a petition to order Subuh's release, saying the case was being handled by the State Security Court and was out-

side the jurisdiction of civilian judges. The decision sparked criticism by Palestinian and Western human rights groups who have demanded his release.

Yesterday the Palestinian Legislative Council discussed a bill aimed at establishing an independent judiciary.

"No one would dispute the necessity of this law," said PLC member Ziyad Abu Zayyad, who represents Jerusalem.

The bill, according to an early draft, would set up an appeals court, set a power balance between the judiciary and executive branches, and provide technical support for judges.

Chief Justice Kusai Abadla also called for reconciling the two legal systems in use in Palestinian self-rule areas. He noted that Jordanian law was applied in the West Bank while in Gaza, Egyptian law was being used.



Sons of Abraham

President Ezer Weizman poses with members of the Sons of Abraham, an association sponsored by the US to foster greater understanding between Jews and Arabs. Present at the meeting yesterday were Jewish and Arab teachers from Israel, and their peers from Jordan.

Gun license restrictions won't be loosened

By BATSHEVA TSUR

Interior Minister Eli Suissa has reneged on a decision that would have licensed former combat soldiers and officers from non-combat units to carry weapons.

The change emerged yesterday in a hearing on a petition made to the High Court of Justice by MK Avraham Poraz (Shinui) last year.

At the time, Poraz pointed out that Suissa's decision to massively extend the number of persons licensed to carry weapons contradicted the recommendations of professionals.

"The minister's decision is tantamount to giving all and sundry a pistol. This is a dangerous decision especially in light of the reality among the Israeli public of growing extremism, heated tempers and a tendency to violence," Poraz wrote in his petition.

The court issued an interim injunction against the decision last year.

Yesterday the state attorney's office told the court that Suissa had reversed his decision and would not extend the criteria for weapons possession.

'Most Israeli Jews support Oslo Accords'

By DAVID RUDGE

More than 60 percent of Jewish Israelis support the peace process and want the Oslo Accords to continue to be implemented, according to Haifa University sociologist Prof. Sammy Smooha.

"There is a clear majority in Israeli society today which is ready for peace. This consists of the broad center, including a majority of Likud voters and those who support Labor and of course Meretz," he said.

"People are simply fed-up with the conflict, and at the same time there's a feeling that there is an alternative. This fatigue has been growing, especially since..."

aggressive war in Lebanon that began in 1982 and the intifada."

Smooha, who participated in a conference, entitled "The Middle East at the Crossroads," at Haifa University this week, maintained that the transition towards supporting peace among Israeli Jews began in the mid-1970s.

Smooha said his analysis was based on academic studies and public opinion polls and surveys conducted over the past few years.

"These all show that there is a clear majority among Israeli Jews who support the continuation of the Oslo Accords, who accept the PLO as a negotiating partner and who accept the idea of a re-division of the Land of Israel," he said.

PA demands return of escaped prisoner

By STEVE RODAN and MOHAMMED NAJIB

The Palestinian Authority is demanding the return of a fugitive who was wounded during a shoot-out with security forces near Beit El on Sunday and taken to the hospital by Israeli police.

Issam Matariya, who was shot by officers of the PA's Preventive Security Apparatus, escaped in July from Ramallah prison and has been the target of a search by Palestinian security forces.

Eyewitnesses said Matariya, who was wanted for unspecified criminal charges, was driving with three other Palestinians near the Beit El junction. The car then

crashed into a PSA vehicle.

Matariya, PSA Ramallah chief Col. Zakariya Muslih said, leaped out of the car and opened fire on the Palestinian security jeep. The officers returned fire. The three passengers in the car were then arrested.

But Matariya managed to make his way to a nearby Israeli Border Police unit, which took him to Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem, Muslih said.

Representatives of both the Israel Police and PSA met in the District Coordinating Office in Ramallah, where PA officers asked for Matariya's return.

The Israelis said Matariya would undergo medical treatment before being returned to the PA.

MKs discuss death threat to Elon

AT THE KNESSET

By LIAT COLLINS

On the morning of the memorial service for prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, the Knesset held a debate on the death threat MK Benny Elon (Molodet) received earlier this week. Elon got a letter - with a bullet from an M-16 inside it - that read: "You killed the peace, dark, fanatic primitives - killed Rabin and killed the hope. We'll wipe you out." It was signed "Peace on Earth."

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) filed a police complaint and asked for an inquiry into who sent the threat. Cohen was one of the MKs who filed an urgent motion to the agenda on the subject in the Knesset plenum. "We can't, particularly on the memorial day for the murdered prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin, be apathetic or turn our heads in a case like this," he said.

Molodet leader Rehavam Ze'evi read aloud to the Knesset other threats from the Left against the Right. In particular, he noted the words of Yigal Tumarkin, who had threatened Isomet leader Raphael Eitan and Ze'evi. Ze'evi called for an end to the attacks on both sides.

MK Eli Goldschmidt (Labor) said that politicians on the Left and Right had not responded swiftly to incitement and had not prevented Rabin's murder.

Labor files, drops no-confidence motion

The Labor faction yesterday

filed a motion of no-confidence in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu against the background of the crisis within the Likud.

Labor whip Ra'anan Cohen said the Likud Party convention showed that Netanyahu was manipulative, power hungry and untrustworthy.

He said the motion would not be heard until the prime minister returns from his meetings in England and the US next Wednesday.

Later the party dropped the motion altogether, apparently after Labor leader Ehud Barak said it should not interfere in the Likud's affairs.

Meanwhile, MK Rafi Elul (Labor) is calling for more MKs to join his motion to oust the prime minister.

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Arbel meets Maccabi Australia head

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Maccabi Australia President Tom Goldman met yesterday with State Attorney Edna Arbel, who he said told him that she and her staff are giving the bridge-collapse case their utmost attention.

"They do realize the importance of this case and all the international ramifications," Goldman said after the meeting, which was also attended by Tel Aviv District Attorney Miriam Rosenthal. "They have two attorneys from the Tel Aviv office working on it full-time, and they are treating it as a very serious case."

The State Attorney's Office said yesterday that the investigation is winding down and charges are expected to be filed within a month.

The meeting came as a group of Israeli Maccabiah medal winners sent their medals to Australian tennis player Sasha Elterman, a victim of the tragedy who is currently in very serious condition. They also sent letters criticizing the delays in prosecuting the case, and assuring her that there are "other voices" in Israel who want justice to be done swiftly.

Goldman said he was leaving Israel "disappointed in that I couldn't convince them to bring any charges any sooner, but distinctly bappier with having met those responsible with preparing the case. I have the utmost confidence that they are giving the matter their full attention."

"They do understand the pressures we are under in Australia and they are under the same pressure here to resolve this case. Be assured that even though I'm not in Israel, we will keep up the pressure from Australia to bring about the indictment."

Goldman's meeting yesterday followed one Tuesday with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, whom he said was "anxious to insure that the financial issues [concerning initial compensation] are resolved. He was certainly surprised that it had not been completed thus far."



Maccabi Australia President Tom Goldman arrives at the Justice Ministry yesterday.

(Brian Henders)

Goldman said the \$500,000 in initial compensation payments to the families, which will be transferred as a loan and facilitated by Maccabi Australia, should be processed soon.

Goldman said media reports about pressure on the Australian Olympic Committee to bar Israeli participation in the 2000 games in Sydney were "premature and exaggerated." "I certainly wouldn't be a party to such action at this time, nor

propose it at this time. I think it's important that this matter be resolved before the Olympics, thus avoiding any problems or ill feelings of any sort towards athletes coming from Israel. I don't believe this is really the way to go."

Asked about current feelings among Australian Jews towards Israel, Goldman said: "I think it's a matter of wait and see. The concerns and distress people had at the outset about why and how the acci-

dent happened have given way to a feeling that it's time for some people to accept responsibility. It's time for charges to be pressed against those responsible, and I think if anything we're getting a bit tired of waiting, and certainly it would be much kinder on Israel and the relationship between Australian Jews and Israel to resolve this matter as quickly as possible."

The athletes who sent Maccabiah

medals to Elterman included both younger and older medal-winners. Among them were Lital Kashriel, current Maccabiah swimming champion; swimmer Yoav Bruck, who is among the top 10 in the world; Moshe Geriel, Shlomit Nir, Lior Birkan, Dorit Limor, Danny Brenner, and Jerusalem city councilwoman Anat Hoffman, who sent her silver medal.

Batshevo Tsur contributed to this report.

Doctors' sanctions cause backlog of 15,000 elective operations

By JUDY SIEGEL

More than 15,000 elective operations have been postponed in public hospitals in the past nine weeks amid repeated sanctions by the Israel Medical Association. Surgical theaters will be shut again today except for emergencies.

The sanctions are part of a series of protests launched in September by the IMA against the Treasury's refusal to carry out an agreement to pay for hiring 360 more doctors. Health Minister Yehoshua Matza confronted Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman about the issue during the security cabinet meeting yesterday, and demanded immediate action to resolve the dispute.

Matza said in the Knesset plenum that the National Health Insurance Law that the Treasury wants to change, "is a good law that ensures egalitarianism and a basket of health services."



Yehoshua Matza

The problem is that since the law's enactment in 1995, "all the governments failed to ensure

sources of financing for it as required by law. Only a formula in which the basket is updated and adequate sources of income are ensured will prevent the health system from collapsing," Matza said.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar accused the Treasury of reducing the number of hospital beds per 1,000 residents to 2.3, as compared with 3.5 in the US, 3.9 in Greece and 7.0 in Germany. Blachar charged that the number of doctors per hospital bed in Israel was one of the lowest in the world. "We are fighting not for increased salaries but for improved medical treatment and relieving overcrowding in the internal medicine departments," Blachar said.

He urged Treasury officials to "visit hospitals and see the wards overflowing instead of playing around with numbers."

Hadash MK: Don't mix politics and religion

By HAIM SHAPIRO

"Why should I, an Arab, have to participate in a theological debate on Judaism?" MK Azmi Bshara (Hadash) asked yesterday.

Bshara was speaking at the closing session of a three-day conference on "The Impact of Religion on Politics at the End of the Twentieth Century," sponsored by the B'nai B'rith World Center and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. He argued that the failure of Zionism to separate Jewish nationalism from religion was the source of a continuing problem for Israel. Bshara related with humor the visit of a delegation from the Reform movement, which tried to convince him that its approach to conversion to Judaism is a legitimate one. They were nice people, he said, but what did their issue have to do with him?

According to Bshara, Israel has undergone a gradual process of "clericalizing politics and politicizing religion" and of turning secular values like the land into religious values. Within religious circles today, the settling of land is regarded as a religious commandment and Zionism considered a messianic movement, he said. "This, he insisted, is a new devel-

opment in Israel's political life. Mizrahi, the predecessors of the National Religious Party, was not made up of religious Zionists, he said. Instead, the members were religious and were Zionists. Zionism, he said, was a secular, modern movement that yearned to be a national movement. Herzl, he said, wanted to turn the Jews into a modern nation, while the religious circles did not want to be a nation like other nations.

Relating to Bshara's contentions, Haifa Chief Rabbi She'ar-Yashuv Cohen said that it is a mistake to view Zionism as a secular movement. Whether a person is more observant or less observant, their Zionism still is religiously motivated, he suggested, noting that the late Yitzhak Rabin often had quoted from biblical passages relating to the link between the Jewish people and the land of Israel.

Relating to the role of the Jewish religion in politics, Cohen said that Judaism believed in freedom of choice, rather than coercion. However he appeared to be less than willing to accept religious pluralism within Judaism.

"There should be basic unity. Then I believe in pluralism," he said.

Weizmann scientists herald discovery of 'heroic' proteins

By JUDY SIEGEL

A pair of "heroic" proteins that fling themselves onto damaged genes as a second line of defense against genetic mutations has been discovered by Weizmann Institute scientists. Their discovery is published in the November 14 issue of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

DNA is damaged daily - by chemicals in cigarette smoke, ultraviolet radiation, or other carcinogens - in a way that can create genetic mutations, which can lead to disorders, including cancer. The body uses a system of repair enzymes to correct this damage, but what happens when the system fails?

Prof. Zvi Livneh of the institute's biological chemistry department, along with Dr. Tamar Paz-Elizur and doctoral student Yoav Barak, discovered that a second line of defense based on "heroic proteins" fights mutation development with "their own bodies."

The proteins, known as Fpg and UvrA, were previously known to play a role in "cut-and-paste" DNA repair jobs. But now the Weizmann scientists have found they are no mere repairmen, but physically attach themselves to damaged DNA, preventing it from multiplying and causing a mutation.

The researchers believe the proteins may be part of a larger family of DNA repair proteins that work according to the same principle. They discovered the proteins' new role by analyzing common *E. coli* bacteria and will follow up the research by analyzing human cells.

"If we can fully understand this and other DNA repair mechanisms, we may one day be able to turn them on in order to prevent cancer," Livneh said.

Scientists may also one day be able to identify people whose bodies aren't as effective as others at repairing DNA so they can be warned to stray away from carcinogens in their environment.

Link found between cell death and tumors

By JUDY SIEGEL

An intriguing link between the natural process of "programmed" cell death and the propensity of tumors to spread has been forged by Weizmann Institute scientists, according to an article appearing in today's issue of *Nature*.

Prof. Adi Kimchi of the Rehovot institute's molecular genetics department demonstrated that a cell-suicide gene called DAP-kinase can prevent metastasis - the spread of cancer cells through the body from its original source.

This finding suggests that a loss or malfunction of these genes allows metastasis to develop. Working on mice, she and her colleagues found that lung cancer clones, isolated from the rodents and characterized by highly

aggressive metastatic behavior, did not produce the DAP-kinase - a recently isolated enzyme thought to be involved in apoptosis (programmed cell death).

Restoring the enzyme in highly metastatic cancer cells suppressed their ability to form metastases and delayed tumor growth. "In our experiment, we have shown that introducing a 'good' copy of the DAP-kinase gene into metastatic cells restores the ability of these cells to kill themselves," Kimchi said.

"It's important, however, to remember that this gene is only one of many factors involved in the development of metastasis, so that much research still needs to be conducted before we can find molecular ways to block this life-threatening process," Kimchi

added. Kimchi's team, including doctoral students Boaz Inbal and Ofer Cohen, Prof. Lea Eisenbach, Ezra Vadai, Dr. Silvie Polak-Charcon and Juri Kopolovic of Sheba Hospital, discovered and isolated the DAP-kinase gene two years ago. Cell death is essential for proper renewal and turnover of tissue.

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The Municipality of Tel Aviv-Yafo is interested in obtaining information for establishing a cellular parking system, with parking fees payable through use of a cellular infrastructure. After studying the submitted proposals the Municipality plans to conduct a pilot project.

Material for submission of information is available from the office of the deputy director, Infrastructure and Construction Administration, 5 Pilon Street, 6th floor, room 603, tel: 03-5217322.

Information should be submitted in three copies by 15.00 Hrs. on 18.1.98 at the City Hall, Rabin Square, Tel Aviv, at the Municipal Postal Services, room 1228, 12th floor.

Roni Milo

Mayor of Tel Aviv-Yafo

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NEWS

in brief

Histadrut threatens 'biggest strike ever'

The Histadrut announced yesterday that it would launch "the biggest strike ever" on Sunday, November 23 if it fails to resolve its disputes with the Treasury by then.

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz and trade union head Shlomo Shani said after a meeting yesterday that the open-ended general economic strike would begin with a huge workers' demonstration in Jerusalem during the weekly cabinet session. They said union leaders would convene in Tel Aviv on November 20 to discuss the strike action.

Jerusalem Post Staff

New drivers must be accompanied

For six months after receiving a license, new drivers will only be allowed on the road if they are accompanied by a veteran driver with at least five years' experience who is 23 or older. This suggestion by Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy was accepted yesterday by the Ministerial Committee on Legislation. The change is designed to reduce accidents involving young drivers.

Jerusalem Post Staff

Technion, workers talking again

Hopes were high yesterday of a breakthrough in the labor dispute which has threatened to close the Technion and disrupt the studies of thousands of students. Histadrut Haifa branch chairman Baruch Zaltz announced that talks had resumed between management and representatives of the 800 workers of the university's Research and Development Foundation. He said the resumption of negotiations was made possible after management rescinded its notice warning of the dismissal of up to 200 of the foundation's employees unless a recovery program was implemented.

David Rudge

Ramle parents keep pupils home

The parents association at two Ramle schools, one in the new Ganei Dan neighborhood and the other in the town's Jewish neighborhood, boycotted classes yesterday to protest the lack of security and fears of violence in the area. The parents said their children hear the gunshots in the neighborhood at night and go to school in great fear. The parents said many of the pupils have trouble concentrating on their studies.

The school in Ganei Dan was hit by bullets on Monday. Tension in Jewish has built in recent days after a man was shot dead after getting out of his car in the neighborhood. Two clans have been feuding in the area.

Aryeh Dean Cohen

Ramallah radio station closed

A pirate radio station in Ramallah was closed down yesterday by Palestinian Authority officials after Communications Ministry experts found that the town was the source of serious disruptions to the control tower telecommunications with aircraft at Ben-Gurion Airport. The ministry contacted Jamil Tarifi, who deals with civilian matters in the PA, he sent workers to find the station and closed it late Tuesday night within a few hours of receiving the complaint.

Judy Siegel

Arrests follow village stoning feud

Police made several arrests yesterday in Tuba after a stonethrowing fight erupted there on Tuesday over a delayed wedding. Two of those arrested were suspected of rioting, police said.

Itim

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Monday Dec. 8 MEET THE MEDIA

"Power without responsibility." We'll find out whether Stanley Baldwin's accusation is correct when we meet them all - Moshe Fogel, the Government Press Officer, Conny Muss of the Foreign Press Association and visit The Jerusalem Post, Ma'ariv, Galei Zahav and the TV studios. A full day of enlightenment with time for questions and maybe answers. Not to be missed. NIS 210 including lunch. Tour escort: Pia Rothstein

Monday Dec. 15 "IN DEPTH" IN HAIFA

Israel's power-house city is more than that as we'll show you. We'll visit the Persian Gardens at the Bahai Temple, the loveliest in the country, then the Templars area on the Carmel, settled in 1887, Beit Hagefen, the Jewish-Arab cultural center and the Technion, founded in 1924. We'll visit M.L.M., Israel's largest industrial park, home to over 80 hi-tech companies. We'll see Haifa port and harbor and sail in Haifa Bay, visit Stella Maria, the cave of Elijah, the Carmelite Monastery and much more. NIS 230 including lunch. Tour guides: Lior Shorer

Sunday Dec. 21 DISCOVER THE GREEN LINE

For many its just a line on the map, but in the not too distant future it will be the main cause of confrontation. Come and speak to "green line residents" in Hashmonaim, Kiriat Sefer, Lapid, Maccabim, Modi'in, and Neve Shalom. If you are interested in Israel's future then don't miss this tour. NIS 210 including lunch. Tour guides: Historian Avi Ben-Hur

Sunday Jan. 11 RETURN TO BEIT SHEAN

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The tour price includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations. Lunch as indicated. 10% discount when you book all four tours. Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible and arranged beforehand.

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For Bolsheviks, the Party's over

By CAROL J. WILLIAMS

MOSCOW — There were bigger crowds at the McDonald's in Pushkin Square on Friday last week than at a Communist Party rally in the shadow of the Kremlin to remember an event 80 years ago that changed the world.

Discarded french fry containers, billboards pushing Revlon lipstick, and neon lights luring nouveaux riches Russians to glitzy casinos splattered slate-gray skies and snow-encrusted sidewalks with more red than did the flags and banners waved in patriotic celebration of Revolution Day.

On what was once a vaunted holiday commemorating the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, it might be said that the ideology for which the fire went out among Russians nearly a decade ago was practically extinguished on its 80th birthday.

This first year of observing November 7th as the Day of Reconciliation and Accord — instead of Revolution Day — passed like the merciful death of a long-suffering patient among a population satisfied enough that it was still a day off from work, as was President Boris N. Yeltsin's intention.

A year ago, after a similarly unremarkable turnout for the anniversary, Yeltsin proclaimed a change from paying tribute to a political watershed no longer recalled with favor by most to a holiday dedicated to healing the

divisions that run deeply through the new Russia.

"The truth about the sacrifices and sufferings of millions of our countrymen, the grief and trouble which the revolution brought, was too bitter," Yeltsin told the nation in a televised address Friday.

"The revolution provoked conflict in society, made Russians clash in a fratricidal civil war, sacrificed ordinary human values to political fanaticism, tore us from the world community for a long time, and made a bogeyman for other peoples and countries." The 66-year-old president, himself once a high-ranking member of the Communist Party, ordered a monument built to commemorate all Russians killed, the Bolshevik "Reds" and the Imperialist "Whites," during the revolution and the four years of bloody upheaval that followed.

"Today, we simply must remember everyone who died in the civil conflict and understand and forgive those who made a fatal historical mistake by placing a utopian ideal above human life," Yeltsin said.

But the rewards of Russia's evolving democracy and market economy have remained elusive for many in this country, especially the elderly.

On Friday, nostalgia for the Soviet era prompted the most disenchanted to take to the streets.

A crowd of about 3,000 pensioners and leftist radicals gathered at this capital city's last

prominent monument to Soviet founder V.I.

Lenin and marched to Red Square for fiery oratory in a frozen drizzle that kept away any others who might have listened.

Denouncing Yeltsin's attempt to hijack his aging followers' most cherished holiday, Communist Party leader Gennady A. Zyuganov declared that there cannot be peace or accord among Russians as long as social inequities persist.

"Millions of homeless children, unemployed and refugees will not agree to such peace," said the man whose challenge and message were defeated by Yeltsin in last year's presidential election.

Another pro-Communist agitator, Gen. Lev Rokhlin, a decorated hero of the Afghan War, appealed to the demonstrators "to overturn the hateful regime, and the sooner the better."

Across Russia, fervor for the revolution was uniformly weak. The Interior Ministry, which deployed 400,000 police and riot troops to guard against clashes over the three-day weekend, reported a nationwide turnout for peaceful rallies and marches of no more than 200,000.

The other 147 million Russians spent the day in the countryside with friends or family, or gathered around the stoves and fireplaces of their dachas.

Yeltsin had called on his fellow Russians to steer clear of

angry rallies to avoid confrontation, and most heeded his appeal. A poll by the Public Opinion Foundation showed 95 percent of respondents intended to observe the holiday as a non-political day off.

But the president's abolition of Revolution Day was met with some dissatisfaction: The same poll had 47% describing November 7th as an important date commemorating Russia's past glory.

"This was such a Communist thing to do — unilaterally taking away a holiday that meant something to a certain part of the population," complained pensioner Yevgenia Skripko, a one-time Yeltsin supporter who now describes herself as thoroughly apathetic.

The daily *Moskovskaya Pravda* condemned the president for high-handedness, accusing him of "trying to snatch the monopoly on the once-red holiday out of the hands of the red opposition."

At Friday's rally, Zyuganov proclaimed a bright future in the 21st century for his party and its vision of a worldwide workers' paradise.

But his words echoed empty across the slushy cobblestones of an otherwise abandoned Red Square, contrasting dramatically with the full-scale celebration at the site a decade ago when the might of the Soviet Red Army was paraded for the world to see — and studder — on the 70th birthday of the revolution.

LA Times



'Saddam commandos'

An Iraqi man holding a poster of President Saddam Houssein waits to volunteer for the "Saddam commandos," an Iraqi military unit designed to defend the country in a time of crisis. Iraq said yesterday that it would not bow to an "oppressive" United Nations. (Reuters)

AGENDA

Continued from Page 1

The conflicting testimonies of former prime ministers Yitzhak Shamir and Shimon Peres, the content of which was revealed in Amnon Abramovitz's report this week on Mabar, should not be surprising.

Shamir was an operations man. When asked to approve any action, he entered into every detail of the operation, whether it related to intelligence, operation or planning. The Mashaal operation in Jordan was completely different. Its proportions were far more limited. But anyone looking for the reason behind Shamir's critical testimony to the Ciechanover Commission and his statements against the operation in Jordan, can find it in Shamir's character and in his devotion to detail.

The testimony given by Peres to the commission, which was perceived as supportive not just of Yatom but of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu as well, is also not surprising. Peres is a man of "the big picture" — of vision, of hitting a bull's eye. He wanted to know as little as possible. He took no interest in details. They bored him. These he left for the young people around him. It is said that years after the extended covert activity of his advisor on terrorism, the late Amiram Nir, was discovered, Peres asked: "Tell me, who was Amiram subordinate to, me or [then defense minister Yitzhak] Rabin?"

The dismal conclusion of the members of the Ciechanover Commission — and, even worse, of considerable sectors of the public — is that Netanyahu's handling of Mashaal wasn't great, neither in his vision nor in his delving into detail.

They all speak the truth

These conflicting testimonies, which were revealed in Abramovitz's report, are ultimately likely to help Netanyahu. The question begins to be one more of style than of content. Apparently, the one person unlikely to be able to slide out of it this time will be Yatom and his deputies.

Not because the failure was Yatom's, but because the full responsibility rests on his shoulders.

The person responsible for the advancement of Yatom was former defense minister Moshe Arens who, during his first term in office, appointed Yatom as his military secretary. Many of those close to Arens at the time are now saying that Yatom impressed Arens mainly with his educational background and with his exemplary mathematical order and organization.

Rabin also appreciated these qualities when he entered the Prime Minister's Office. Yet not a single person in his circle can recall Yatom ever having an original idea or creative thought.

Yatom will not fall due to the claim that he did not report to his superiors on the Mashaal operation for three reasons:

A. He was not supposed to share the details of the operation.

B. When he says that he reported on the operation, he is probably not lying.

C. Everything is documented.

In his discussion with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, Yatom mentioned Mashaal as an approved target for the operation. The discussion happened, by chance, to be recorded in writing

by Col. Shaul Arieli, assistant military secretary to the minister, who was new in the position and thus was meticulous about taking accurate minutes of the meeting.

Yatom, justifiably, can view a report to defense officials as a report to the IDF. On the other hand, when Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak says that he did not know about the Mashaal operation, he too is telling the truth. It appears that no one — either in the committee meeting of security service heads or in the meeting with the minister of defense — interpreted Yatom's statements as being operational.

Yatom will also not fall because of the training exercise for the operation conducted on an innocent passerby on Ibn Gabirol Street in Tel Aviv. These kinds of details did not have to be imparted to anyone. It should be assumed that Yatom is also telling the truth when he says that "D" from the Mossad's international division, who warned against any operation in Jordan, did not convey this to him directly.

Reservations "D" had about the action in Jordan were voiced through acceptable channels, via his direct superiors.

A new head and a different outlook

Yatom will fall because he is Yatom. The Ciechanover Commission does not have to issue warnings. The head of the Mossad did not fall into a tangled web of coordinating testimony. He fell because of failure. The toughest of his detractors are now counting a list of failures which stuck to his long, glorious career as a brave, honest and reliable fighter.

For example, the vile massacre committed by Baruch Goldstein took place when Yatom was temporarily filling in for OC Central Command Nehemia Tamari, who had been killed in an accident.

Another example is that Yatom did not warn Rabin about the activity of General Security Service agent provocateur Avishai Raviv when he served as the prime minister's military secretary.

The focus in the Mossad now is not on Yatom. It is on who will replace him and when. This is where the controversial role of the prime minister comes into the picture. In this secret organization which requires a commander with an unblemished record, there is a fear that if Netanyahu preferred to do without a military secretary since Maj.-Gen. Ze'ev Livne left to serve as an attaché in Washington, he is liable to delay appointing a new head of the Mossad as well.

Such an organization cannot allow itself to remain without a commander.

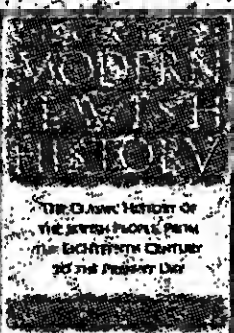
Full responsibility lies with the prime minister alone. The Mossad, which was established as a body for information-gathering and special tasks, has over the years expanded its activity, and worked wonders, bringing Jews to Israel and forging relations with countries which did not have diplomatic ties with Israel. Most of those countries now have formal relations with Israel, while most of the Jews who wanted to immigrate are already here. Thus, the Mossad not only needs a new chief, but one who thinks differently. One with a creative and original head. Not a square. And certainly not one devoid of the trust of the members of the organization.

"At Basel, I Founded the Jewish State" Theodor Herzl

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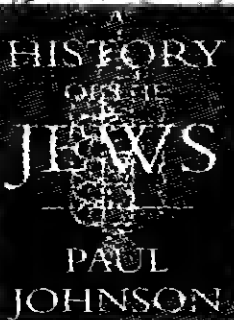
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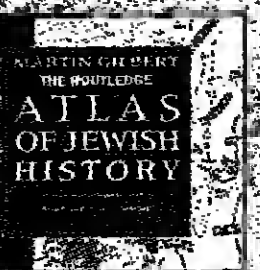
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مكتبة القدس

South African business apologizes for apartheid harm

By JULIETTE SAUNDERS

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - South Africa's main Afrikaans business organization yesterday apologized for its actions under white rule and offered nine billion rand (\$1.86 billion) to help create black jobs.

"Money cannot compensate for the past but... let us put medicine on the wounds of the past," Theo van Wyk, former president of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut (AHI), told the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which is investigating the crimes of the apartheid era.

The institute said it had wronged the black majority by its support of separate development, its belated acceptance of moral and economic objections to apartheid, and its insensitivity to human rights.

The institute said it had wronged the black majority by its support of separate development, its belated acceptance of moral and economic objections to apartheid, and its insensitivity to human rights.

Van Wyk said Afrikaans business leaders now want to contribute to reconciliation and the creation of a prosperous country by using a fund which was set up under apartheid to cover losses incurred through political unrest.

"Now that risk has diminished dramatically," he said.

The Truth Commission, headed by Nobel Peace laureate Desmond Tutu, will make recommendations on reparations to President Nelson Mandela when it finalizes its report by mid-1998.

The AHI, despite its admission that it helped sustain apartheid, denied it benefited from the system.

It cited the burden of releasing personnel to the military, the hidden costs in developing non-sustainable industries, the cost of running a closed society and the waste of human potential.

"Apartheid made South Africa poorer. Business did not benefit from this. In fact, business could have created significantly more wealth had apartheid not been in force, assuming a peaceful transition."

Earlier, the Black Management Forum, which aims to develop

black business leadership in a non-racial workplace, said white conglomerates had profited from racial capitalism, causing deprivation on a huge scale.

"Business carried out the economic mandate of apartheid. There should be no doubt that the apartheid state was well-tuned to business. The result of it all was human denial and deprivation on a huge scale," the forum said.

It rejected almost unanimous evidence presented on Tuesday by white-run big corporations that they had always opposed apartheid.

"The claim by white business that they resisted apartheid and violated certain laws to do so must be rejected. We don't see the evidence to their own backyard, the workplace," the forum said in its presentation.

It said business leaders emulated apartheid and committed rights violations by stopping blacks achieving their potential at work. Businesses failed to oppose construction of worker hostels which separated men from their families, and they imposed different salary scales for whites and blacks.

South Africa's most powerful Afrikaner business family, the Ruperts, presented a dossier outlining its opposition to the separate development plan of the former National Party government as far back as the 1950s, including newspaper reports and other documents.

The family also released a letter that Rembrandt group founder Anton Rupert sent to former president P.W. Botha at the height of black resistance to his hard-line rule. In the letter, dated January 1986, Rupert told Botha: "[Apartheid] is crucifying us; it is destroying our language; it is degrading a once heroic nation to be the lepers of the world. Remove the burden of a curse of a transgression against mankind from the backs of our children and their children."

A day after Pakistani's murder conviction in US

Gunmen kill 4 Americans and local driver in Karachi

By AMIR ZIA

KARACHI (Reuters) - Gunmen killed four American men and their Pakistani driver yesterday in a daylight ambush which police said could be linked to the US conviction of a Pakistani for murdering two CIA employees.

The gunmen, in a stolen car, intercepted a vehicle in which employees of the US oil exploration giant Union Texas were driving to work in Pakistan's restive second city.

Using automatic weapons, the gunmen sprayed the Union Texas vehicle with bullets for several minutes in the main commercial district of western Karachi.

The deputy inspector-general of Karachi police, Mohammad Iqbal, said yesterday it was too early to say who was to blame.

But he said the attack might be tied to the conviction in the US of Mir Aimal Kasi for the 1993 murder of two Central Intelligence Agency employees at his Langley, Virginia, headquarters.

"Our investigations are in a preliminary stage... it could also be a reaction to Aimal Kasi's trial in the US, but it is too early to say anything," he said.

The president of the company's Pakistan division, Arnold Hoffman, told a Karachi news conference: "At this time we do not know the reason for this attack and we are fully cooperating with the local officials in their investigations."

Security was tightened at the US consulate and all western diplomatic missions in Karachi following the attack, the latest in a string involving Pakistanis and foreigners in Karachi.

"They are being guarded by paramilitary rangers and the police," Iqbal said. "Three special investigation teams have been formed to probe the killing of the Americans, while police and rangers have intensi-

fied snap checks of vehicles." Kasi was captured in June by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in Pakistan after a four-year manhunt. He pleaded not guilty. Prosecutors said he was seeking to avenge the US bombing of Iraq during the Gulf war and US Middle East policy.

After Kasi's conviction on Monday, the State Department issued a warning to US citizens travelling abroad that people sympathetic to Kasi might react against Americans.

The four Americans killed yesterday were internal auditors for Houston-based Union Texas and arrived in Pakistan between late October and early November, police said.

Asim Raees, another employee of Union Texas, was the first on the scene and said all four Americans died on the spot.

"The bodies were riddled with bullets and none of them was alive," Raees said. "There were other company cars which were following them. We removed them in our own vehicles to the hospital."

Police said the car used in the attack had been stolen on Monday and was found abandoned about two kilometers away.

Union Texas identified those killed as Ephraim Egbu, Joel Enlow, Larry Jennings and Tracy Ritchie, all auditors and all from Houston, and Anwar Murza, a driver from Karachi.

Union Texas has been working in oil and gas in Pakistan for more than 20 years. Its operations there employ some 600 people, including 21 expatriates from the US and elsewhere.

Iqbal said police were unaware of the presence of the four Union Texas employees in Karachi.

"We could have provided them security if they had informed us of their movements," he said.



Several men remove the body of one of the five Union Texas employees murdered yesterday from the scene of the crime in Karachi, Pakistan. (Reuters)

Pakistan's President Farooq Leghari sent a message to US President Bill Clinton saying "the terrorist incident in Karachi has shocked us deeply. We are determined to apprehend the criminals swiftly and award them severe punishment."

Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif told Clinton the attack "underscores once

again the sinister and defiant face of terrorism."

No group claimed responsibility for yesterday's attack, the worst involving foreign nationals since two US consulate staff were killed in another vehicle ambush in March 1995.

The attack was the latest in a string of violent incidents to hit

Pakistan's troubled port and commercial capital. Victims have included Sunni and Shi'ite nationals caught in feuding between the two groups. Early this month gunmen killed two mullahs on their way to a mosque. More than 380 people have died in political and sectarian violence in Karachi this year, 500 in 1996 and about 2,000 in 1995.

Burglar claims to have Prince Charles' loot

By DANIEL J. WAKIN

ROME (AP) - A professional thief says he has some loot from Prince Charles' London residence, and wants to give it back - for a price, the thief's lawyer said yesterday.

But Renato Rinino, 35, is not asking for money in exchange for the jewelry and documents, defense attorney Alessandro Garassini said in a telephone interview. "My client wants to return the jewels personally, because he wants to meet the prince, and doesn't want to be punished for the crime," Garassini said.

In addition, Rinino wants permission from the prince to sell exclusive publication rights to an account of the meeting, and a promise from British and Italian authorities he won't be punished for the theft, the lawyer said.

Rinino claims to have burgled an elegant mansion while on vacation in London in 1994. He says he later learned from newspaper accounts that his target had been St. James Palace, where the prince stays in London.

So far, British authorities have not replied to Rinino's request, Garassini said. A Buckingham Palace spokesman said that Charles has been informed of the reports, and Scotland Yard only said that it is cooperating with Italian police on the burglary.

The items stolen included cufflinks, sleeve links, gold pins, sick pins, watches, brooches, and silver boxes, a Scotland Yard spokeswoman said. The palace was not occupied at the time of the theft.

Garassini said that when Rinino first approached him with the tale in 1995, he was doubtful it was true. But he advised him to keep quiet until a three-year statute of limitations on prosecution in Italy for the burglary expired.

Earlier this year, the lawyer said, he sent a letter to the British Embassy seeking to verify his client's story. He included photographs provided by Rinino of Faberge cufflinks and gold buttons. The British authorities responded with interest, calling him several times while he was on vacation in June, Garassini said.

"This means that there is truth at the bottom of this," he said. Garassini held a news conference in Lanzo to announce Rinino's claims.

Garassini said he has no idea if a local newspaper report is true that among the documents Rinino supposedly stole are letters from Charles' mistress, Camilla Parker Bowles.

"I don't know about this, and I don't want to know," he said, adding that he has not seen the documents or jewels.

British police said they have no knowledge of anything other than jewelry being stolen.

Garassini said Rinino is serving a jail term for an unrelated apartment theft.

Nicaraguan sweatshops linked to Wal-Mart, Kmart, JC Penney

By VERENA DOBKIN

NEW YORK (AP) - Nicaraguan sweatshops linked to the Wal-Mart, Kmart and J.C. Penney retail chains use workers as young as 15 years old and pay as little as 10 cents an hour in factories ringed by barbed wire and armed guards, a US labor group charged.

"They hit you in the head to make you work faster," Jolena Rodriguez, who works in a cluster of factories near Managua, told the National Labor Committee on Tuesday.

Investigators for the committee reported physical, verbal and sexual abuse at the factories in the Las Mercedes free trade zone about six kilometers outside Nicaragua's capital city.

The department store companies insist they're monitoring the factories and doing their best to improve conditions cited in the report, which comes six months after US President Bill Clinton endorsed an apparel industry human rights code for foreign factories making goods for the US market.

Last year, the New York-based committee also broke the Kathie Lee Gifford sweatshop scandal that made foreign labor abuse a domestic issue. The entrepreneur's name appeared on apparel sold in Wal-Mart but made in Honduran sweatshops for as little as 31 cents an hour.

But those goods are not linked to the Nicaraguan factories investigated by the committee, which used a television camera crew to document the conditions in late October.

The three-part report will air in the US this week on the syndicated television program *Hard Copy*, whose cameramen were accompanied to Nicaragua by committee investigators who had first researched the

cluster of factories last spring. The investigators said they found: underage workers as young as 15 working up to 13 hours a day, seven days a week, usually without overtime pay. They earn as little as 10 cents an hour making garments that are sold to the US by at least a half dozen retailers, including the labels *Dazed Glory* for Wal-Mart, Arizona for J.C. Penney and *Route 66* for Kmart.

A Nicaraguan worker was paid about 11 cents to make a pair of Arizona jeans that sold for \$14.99 at J.C. Penney - labor costs amounting to less than 1 percent of the retail price, said Charles Kernaghan, who is executive director of the committee.

The minimum wage in Nicaragua at the time of the probe was about 14 cents an hour, according to the labor committee, a privately funded, nonprofit worker and human rights watchdog organization.

Kernaghan said workers at most of the factories reported being slapped, pushed around by supervisors who cursed and screamed at them. One Taiwanese-owned factory, Nien Hsing, allegedly dies clothing and makes jeans look stone-washed for Arizona and Route 66 using chemicals that burn workers' hands.

Many of the workers live in shacks built of tin and sticks, with cardboard walls and dirt floors and no running water, and as many as five people crammed into one bed, the committee said.

Theda Page Whitehead, spokeswoman for J.C. Penney, said that although the Plano, Texas-based company "does not do direct business" with the Mil Colores factory cited in the report, "we have a supplier that uses that firm" to make clothing labeled Arizona.

She said that J.C. Penney has "started

looking into conditions there."

Betsy Reitheneyer, spokeswoman for Wal-Mart, based in Bentonville, Arkansas, acknowledged that some Wal-Mart clothing "is produced in Nicaragua, but we have inspectors there and they have found no violations." She said that another Taiwanese-owned factory, called *Fortex*, had been "certified" by a monitor hired by Wal-Mart and that "it may be used by one of our vendors."

"If we find they are not telling us the truth, that's cause for termination of the contract," said Reitheneyer.

Kmart issued a statement saying it had inspected the factory that produces clothing sold at its stores twice this year.

"Those inspections reveal safe working conditions and adherence to our standards and working conditions and the local laws," said the Troy, Michigan-based retailer.

Mahathir to face confidence vote over anti-Jewish statements

By RANJAN ROY

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) - Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad will face a confidence vote in Parliament to allow lawmakers to reaffirm their support after his reported anti-Jewish statements, his deputy announced yesterday.

The motion by the governing coalition will be presented at the earliest possible date in the current session of Parliament, Deputy Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said. Anwar said he would bring the motion himself.

The decision to call the vote came after his supporters decided to respond to demands in the US Congress that Mahathir resign or

apologize for his comments on Jews. Mahathir is expected to easily win the vote, since his National Front coalition of 14 parties controls 153 seats in the 177-seat powerful lower house.

Mahathir has denied making anti-Jewish statements, saying he had only denounced US currency speculator George Soros, who is a Jew.

On Tuesday, Mahathir reiterated that he had never meant to offend Jews when he spoke of a Jewish conspiracy against Muslims being responsible for Malaysia's currency crisis.

His reported remarks angered many in the US, and the State Department condemned them. Local newspapers reported that Rep.

Robert Wexler had proposed a resolution in the House of Representatives asking for Mahathir's resignation for his purported anti-American and anti-Jewish remarks.

A group of congressmen had written a letter to Mahathir citing the resolution, Anwar said. The letter was discussed at a cabinet meeting, he added.

The move by the congressmen had "exceeded the norms of diplomatic engagement and transgressed what we call polite dissent," he said.

"This is really interference in Malaysia's democratic process," Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi commented to reporters. "Dr. Mahathir is our prime minister."

After the au pair case: TV on trial

ANALYSIS

By JOAN BISKUPIC

WASHINGTON - It was trial as sport, with play-by-play commentators, televised outbursts from waiting crowds and, in the English au pair's home town, images of champagne corks flying as the judge threw out the jury's murder verdict, changed it to manslaughter and set Louise Woodward free.

Like the O.J. Simpson case two years earlier, the trial in the death of a Massachusetts infant drew millions of people to their television sets and evoked an outpouring of public opinion on whether justice was served.

But as the public has become intoxicated with big trials, legal experts are focusing on a central question: Can public passion taint a justice system that is intended to be impartial? Trials are supposed to reflect the sentiments of the community - a state brings charges on behalf of "the people" and a jury is made up of one's peers - but what happens when public involvement turns into public influence? Does the public sentiment captured by pollsters, talk radio hosts and TV commentators ever sway a judge? If that happens, are the interests of justice served?

prevail, I'm not always sure it can when the lobbying is so intense and so publicized."

The intense public interest in trials today is often driven by televised coverage and fed by media polls that, some argue, lead people to believe what they think matters, or at least ought to.

Before Zobel reduced Woodward's murder conviction, more than 90 percent of the people polled in Massachusetts said they thought it should be cut or wiped out. Afterward, a *USA Today*/CNN poll found that 5% approved of the decision by the judge, 30% disapproved and 18% didn't know. Most people, however, thought the 19-year-old au pair should have been sentenced to more time than the nine months she already had served.

Today, with cameras in the courtroom and programs such as CNN's "Burden of Proof," public interest in provocative trials has only increased. To "Burden of Proof" co-host Greta Van Susteren, that's a good thing, if it means people learn about the American justice system.

"This isn't an election or a popularity contest," said Nancy Luque, a former federal prosecutor and now defense lawyer in the District of Columbia. "While I think that the judge is right, that 'justice' has to

The Washington Post

Lapps' virility not due to reindeer

STOCKHOLM (Reuters) - The Sami men of Lapland owe their great virility not to their much-vaunted powdered reindeer horn but to a genetic mutation, according to a physiological study published yesterday.

For years the Sami or Lapps, an ethnic group living in northern parts of Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Russia, have sold ground reindeer horn to the Japanese with the claim it increases potency.

But researchers at Finland's Abo University, led by Professor of Physiology Ippo Huhtaniemi, have stumbled across a genetic mutation especially common in Sami men that speeds up production of the male sex hormone testosterone.

Medical research has shown that testosterone can boost sexual energy.

"I have long suspected that we Samis are a little more alert than others," Olle Andersson, retired editor of the newspaper *Samfolkets* (Sami people), told the Swedish daily *Svenska Dagbladet* yesterday.

Huhtaniemi said the study found 40 percent of Sami men had the gene mutation, compared to only 25% of other men in Finland and 20% of Swedes.

He said the frequency of the hormone mutation falls as you travel further south.

"The frequency of the mutation is 15% in men from southern Europe, 10% in Asian men, and 5% in American Indian men," Huhtaniemi told Reuters.

He said the only other ethnic group found to measure up to the Sami so far was Australia's aborigines. The Finnish team is working at present on a study of the frequency of the genetic mutation in aborigines.



Women in politics

US First Lady Hillary Clinton addresses a central Asian conference on "Women in Politics" in Almaty, Kazakhstan, yesterday. Clinton is on an eight-day tour of the former Soviet Union. (Reuters)

The Algerian hazard

By JOHN DANISZEWSKI

ALGIERS, Algeria — Benmouhamed Mouloual, an editor at the government-run daily *El Moudjahid*, threw open a closet in his newspaper's office to display his personal stash of life-saving gear — a blanket, sheet, pillow and toothbrush.

For years, he explained, he has slept on his office couch because of fear of assassination if he goes home.

Mouloual and his colleagues have ample reason to be afraid. Since 1993, at least 59 reporters, editors and broadcasters have been killed in Algeria. Some were blown up, some gunned down, some stabbed and at least two were decapitated — making this by far the most dangerous country in the world in which to be a journalist. (At *El Moudjahid* alone, portraits of nine "martyrs" hang on the wall of the editorial boardroom.)

But it is not only fear for their physical safety that preoccupies Algerian journalists. They are also worried about their ability to report objectively and dispassionately in a conflict-racked country where neither side wants an unfettered media.

On one hand, government authorities employ a heavy arsenal of legal and financial tools to control and shape the news. On the other, the armed groups that have been fighting since 1992 to create an Islamic state in Algeria view journalists as heretics and government stooges who must be silenced, if not killed.

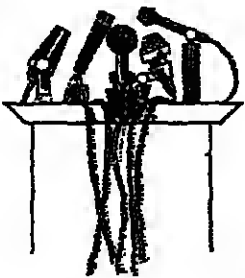
"In these circumstances, freedom of expression is a daily, personal struggle," said Omar Belhouche, editor of *El Watan*

reporters intimidated from printing or broadcasting what they know about human rights abuses and other sensitive topics.

Even when the journalists are willing to report, newspaper directors concerned about finances are reluctant to take risks, sbe said.

"Most journalists in Algeria are not so brave as they seem to be," said Dridi, who describes herself as "a little bitter."

About 10 newspapers have been silenced on financial or legal grounds. Since January, for example, two independents have been refused service by the government-owned printing house, purportedly due to an old unpaid invoice. Editors also complain



Media Update

that the government controls advertising and directs it only to papers that accommodate it. In addition, individual journalists have been jailed for reporting or expressing opinions. In a handful of cases, journalists have

been arrested but never surfaced in a court. Many papers avoid covering delicate subjects, and their coverage of political violence and security matters closely follows the dispatches of the official Algerian Press Service.

Although the past four years have been filled with grief for Algerian journalists, in one respect 1997 has been better. Targeted violence against journalists seems to have waned. The serial killing of journalists in Algeria — presumed to be the work of Islamic militants — started in May 1993, when the

perpetrators were seen being arrested but never surfaced in a court. Many papers avoid covering delicate subjects, and their coverage of political violence and security matters closely follows the dispatches of the official Algerian Press Service.

"In these circumstances, freedom of expression is a daily, personal struggle."

Omar Belhouche, editor of *El Watan*

and one of the country's best-known journalists. His words, during an interview last month, were prescient.

On Wednesday, police took Belhouche from his heavily barricaded Algiers office to question him about a recent *El Watan* article that criticized several army generals. That same day, it was announced that Belhouche had been sentenced to one year in prison, stemming from remarks he made in a 1995 interview with French television. He has one week to appeal.

It is probably no coincidence that Belhouche's sentence came when the government of President Liamine Zeroual is suffering a storm of critical coverage — much of it in *El Watan* — over alleged vote-rigging in municipal elections held last month. No editor of Belhouche's stature has been imprisoned in recent years, and if the sentence stands it will be a chilling signal to other would-be regime critics.

Freelance writer Lola Dridi said she fears her profession is badly compromised, with

admired writer Tahar Djaout, editor of *Ruptures* cultural magazine, was fatally wounded outside his home. Before the end of 1993, nine journalists had been slain, according to figures verified by the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists. In 1994, there were 19 more; in 1995, 24; and in 1996, seven. Not so far in 1997, not a single journalist has been killed. The reasons for the dramatic drop-off remain murky.

"I never knew why it happened, so I can't say why it has stopped," shrugged Djamel Fonzi of the Arabic-language newspaper *El Khabbar*, whose editor Omar Quartilan was gunned down on his way to work two years ago.

Even so, journalists such as Mouloual, Dridi and Fonzi dare not relax their vigilance. All three move around, do not sleep at their old homes and generally keep a very low profile.

As Belhouche said before his arrest: "We became, and automatically that affected our role as journalists."

(LA Times)

What the US can do in Iraq

Without a solid international umbrella — at least for now — Washington has no easy options as it weighs its choices in the Gulf

By ROBIN WRIGHT

WASHINGTON — In dealing with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the options for the United States and its allies span the gamut from angry but often ineffective words to bombs raining from the desert skies.

But the supercharged atmosphere of recent days may well belie what's ahead. For most options will take time — maybe even lots of time.

"There's no set timeline. We're quite willing to play it along as we go," a senior Clinton administration official said this week.

Some options are obvious, especially after seven years of crisis diplomacy with Baghdad. Others reflect imaginative touches. None is easy.

And short of Iraq throwing the first punch by following through on threats to attack a US U-2 spy plane on loan to UN disarmament inspectors, it seems unlikely that the allies will turn to a military solution soon, US officials say.

"Even if we did see a military confrontation at the end of the road, the United States will want to be very careful to lay a good international foundation for it — and that's not laid down yet," said Robert Pelletreau, recently retired assistant secretary of State for Near East affairs. "Otherwise there's going to be a feeling both in the Mideast and Europe that the US had a hair trigger and was jumping the gun," Pelletreau said.

The major challenge of the moment is to devise a course of action where the cost is not higher to the allies, particularly to the United States, than it is to Baghdad.

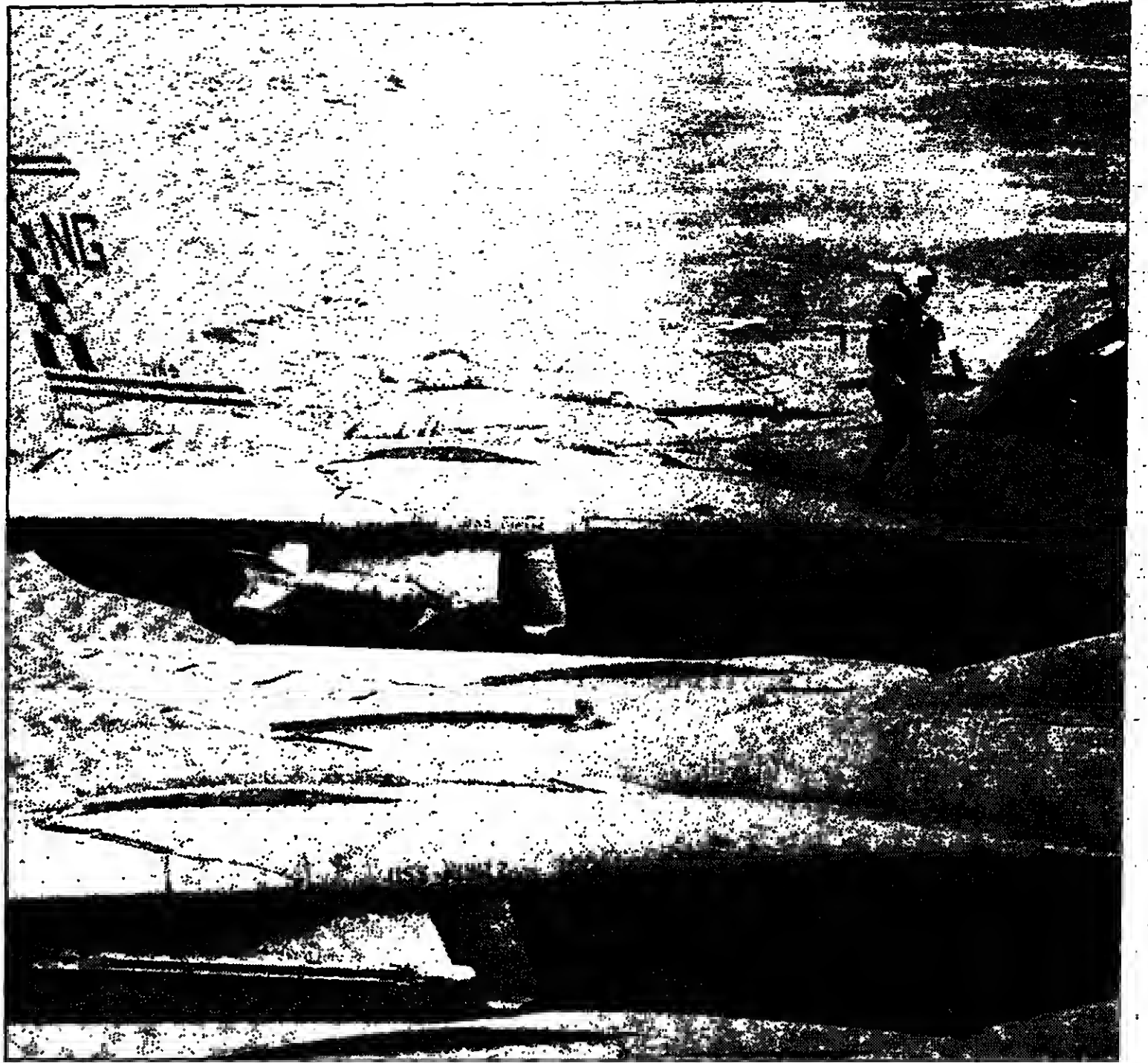
"Lurking always in the back of our minds is the price we may have to pay," said a US official. "Saddam may actually welcome a military strike, for example, as a pretext to throw out all the UN inspectors. Then he'd be free to do whatever he wants with his weapons of mass destruction." As a rule of thumb, as odd as it may seem, the greater the punishment on Iraq, the higher the price to the United States.

"When you start to look at the options, you see what difficulty we're in," said Phebe Marr, Iraq expert at National Defense University. "There aren't many good ones." For the near future, the scene is likely to be dominated by diplomatic to-and-froing, mostly but not exclusively in the UN Security Council.

The Clinton administration began its legwork Monday with the obvious. UN Ambassador Bill Richardson pushed for a resolution that would include a strong condemnation of Iraq, demand total and immediate compliance with all aspects of UN resolutions and impose a travel ban on obstructive Iraqi officials.

More than two weeks ago, before Hussein defiantly demanded that US experts be removed from the UN weapons inspection teams, France, Russia, China, Egypt and Kenya abstained rather than vote on a resolution that would have imposed such a travel ban next spring.

The allies do appear more united now, but passage of a new resolution, expected midweek, is likely to be followed by a "test-



Pilot Krista Lamoreaux walks along the wing of an F-14 Tomcat while performing a maintenance check on the USS Nimitz in the Persian Gulf this week. (AP)

ing time" to see if Hussein will comply, a senior administration official said.

The Russians and French are particularly reluctant to turn to physical force because of past and future financial interests in Iraq that could be jeopardized, US officials say.

So representatives of those two nations are expected to intervene individually to try to persuade Hussein to come around — a process that could take up more time. In past crises, Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny M. Primakov, a Middle East specialist, went to Baghdad or met with senior regime officials to mediate.

As a purely legal question, if Iraq opts to continue harboring US weapons experts from suspected arms sites, the United States could react militarily, US officials say. "We have legal authority to act now," the senior administration official said. "Technically we don't need a formal signal to proceed." But too much too soon could undermine fragile allied unity, which is only now beginning to emerge after fracturing slowly in recent years.

Jan Eliasson, one of three UN envoys who just returned to New York from mediating in Baghdad,

warned this week that immediate talk of military action would not go down well with the world body.

Experts also warn that a swift US military strike would almost certainly enrage the Arab world, already angered by more than six years of sanctions that Iraqis say have caused widespread suffering, and antagonize those Iraqi insiders Washington hopes will someday oust Hussein.

If the clash does escalate into a military confrontation, the scale of the attack will become an issue of debate within the coalition facing Iraq. In the past, allied air and missile attacks have done limited damage, but have been enough to persuade Hussein to back down. Now, however, there is a growing sense that Hussein is bolder and is intent on testing the coalition's resolve more seriously.

"We should rule out 'piopricks' because they've lost credibility," Pelletreau said, referring to a term often used to describe the previous, small-scale allied strikes against Iraq since the 1991 Persian Gulf War. "Once they were a reminder that force was still out there, but Iraq has proven it needs more than a reminder."

To send a strong message, the United States may have to consider either waiting until Iraq's violations have driven the fragmented alliance into greater unity or engaging in a longer or bigger military response.

The United States could achieve bolder results with a modest attack, but that would mean sending in warplanes at lower altitudes so that their weapons are more accurate. But that option significantly escalates the risk that allied aircraft will be shot down, causing casualties or the capture of pilots.

"The problem is that if a pilot ever gets shot down, the cost escalates enormously in a domestic political context," Pelletreau said.

While the military option is held in abeyance for the moment, other UN resolutions are possible. US officials refuse to discuss specifics. But Kenneth M. Pollack, Iraq expert at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, says they could include:

- Suspending Iraq's participation in UN forums, such as the Conference on Disarmament or the UN Human Rights Commission. Barzan Takriti, Hussein's half-brother and finan-

cial banker, is an emissary to the commission.

- Limiting the size of Iraq's diplomatic missions abroad, a step debated in dealing with Libya and Sudan.

- Suspending Iraq from the UN General Assembly, a step imposed on South Africa during the apartheid era.

- Forbidding UN member-states from granting visas to anyone with an Iraqi passport.

- Other experts point to additional measures, such as indicting Iraqi officials for alleged war crimes, a possibility shelved after the Gulf War. The Pentagon still has files on such allegations from the war.

Perhaps one of the most damaging options would be for Washington to eliminate the one arrangement that allows Hussein to sell \$2 billion worth of oil to the outside world to pay for humanitarian goods, experts say. The UN measure, which he finally accepted last year, is his biggest source of foreign exchange.

Yet cancellation would almost certainly boomerang against the United States in the court of world opinion, said Marr of National Defense University. (LA Times)

book department

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Dancing carefully at weddings

DAGHESTAN: Tradition and Survival by Robert Chenciner. Richmond, Curzon Press. 308 pp. £25.

By Ralph Amelan

A tired, miserable American teenager, the unwilling victim of an exchange scheme between Spokane, Washington, and a Daghestani town, had enough of foreign travel, and was doubly surprised to be confronted by an Oxford University don with an abiding passion for the region. His surprise did not prevent him from giving vent to his feelings.

"Geez, the food's awful. We just stopped eating in Daghestan. Ugh. I wanna hamburger. All we wanna do is get back home. Everything's awful in Daghestan. I dunno why we had to come here anyway... Why are you here anyway? What do you wanna find out about these people? God, that's the worst job I can think of. And you like it?" Yes, he likes it. This man likes it enough to regard falling into an open privy as a rite of passage. He likes it enough to attempt such delicacies as "an unusual sausage of ram's intestine, surrounded by its orange bobby gullet" (it could not be cut or chewed, probably just as well). He likes it enough to indulge in frequent drinking sessions with the locals followed by the inevitable and graphically described consequences ("I think it was the cold sheep's tail I ate there, allegedly to preserve me from the effects of the vodka..."). Robert Chenciner and Daghestan were made for each other.

For the benefit of the geographically challenged, Daghestan is in the Caucasus mountains, sandwiched between Chechnya and the Caspian Sea, and home to around two million people. Around two-thirds of its population live in villages, and are relatively poor. There are no natural resources such as the oilfields of Azerbaijan, Daghestan's southern neighbor. The place is formally an autonomous republic but is effectively controlled by and part of Russia.

So what is its attraction? It has few tourist facilities, the sort of roads that disappear in the rains, and a harsh climate. "Unspoiled" is the euphemism that best sums it up.

But there is more to it than that. The inhabitants fiercely defend their customs, cultures, and languages, and they have a lot of them: 33 indigenous ethnic groups, no less, inhabit the region. Some tribes are very small. One village of 400 people has its own language. Others are disappearing, especially the Mountain Jews or Tats, under the pressure of reawakening nationalism. The resulting cultural patchwork is enough to provide scores of budding anthropologists with original field research.

Fortunately, bearing in mind the turgidity of academic

prose, Chenciner is an enthusiast, an amateur in the original sense of the word. He was attracted to the region by its artwork, especially its metalwork and textiles, and has visited several times over the last decade, despite the bureaucratic obstacles placed in his way by Moscow both before and after the demise of the Soviet Union. Armed with camera and notebook, he has roamed the land, happily making perilous trips in bad weather in search of remote villages. His account is very anecdotal, often rambling, occasionally repetitive, but always vivid. His keenness rubs off on the reader. He admires their way of life, and believes that in the absence of outside investment, their best hope of survival is village-scale traditional development.

Their recent past has not been anything to envy, though. Despite fierce resistance under the leadership of their legendary Imam Shamil, the Russians overran Daghestan in the 19th century, and the Soviet Union ripped at their social and economic framework. Mosques were destroyed, farms were collectivized, and the people subjected to execution, deportation and imprisonment. Their culture, part Muslim, part animist, was driven underground. Cheap alcohol was used to douse rebellion. As an indication of how far their living conditions have deteriorated, Chenciner notes that centuries ago there had been paved streets and stone and wood pipe drainage.

Now rain turns the streets of most villages into a sea of mud. For all that, Daghestanis are fiercely traditional. The roles of men and women are clearly defined, and it is not to the advantage of women. Female circumcision was widespread until the 1970s, and the lot of most women is unending hard labor and drudgery in the fields and at home. A typical task is collecting cow dung for fuel. One local prayer was, "Save me, God, from the cold mountains and a disobedient wife!" As you might expect, women's honor is jealously guarded, even to the point of blood feuds. In certain villages even the inadvertent physical touching of a woman while dancing was regarded as rape, and a husband, brother or betrothed who saw it would be entitled to knife the offender. No wonder the author writes that he danced with care at weddings.

Every aspect of Daghestani life is covered in detail: their life-cycle customs, their arts and architecture, folklore and pastimes. Even children's games come under scrutiny. The picture that emerges is that of a cohesive, self-disciplined, superstitious society. They are very hospitable to the outsider, a quality even more admirable when you remember what outsiders have done to them. Such grudges as they feel in that direction are confined to the Russians.

The fall of the Soviet Empire has brought Daghestan mixed benefits. There are elections, which are usually rigged in favor of the former Communist officials.



Chokh village in Daghestan

There has been a revival of nationalism and religion: hundreds of mosques are being built or rebuilt. Imam Shamil has been restored to his place as a national hero. But tensions between the various ethnic groups have increased.

Chenciner devotes a few pages to the 5,000 remaining Jews, eking out an existence in the wake of the rest of the community's mass exodus to Israel.

Their isolation is real and they feel cut off: the author kindly passed on an Israeli magazine published by Daghestani olim. "It must be odd to be a Jew in Daghestan," he concludes.

At least Daghestan has some advantages as it contemplates its future. Its lack of natural resources and its location make it an unlikely target for a predatory neighbor, and the ethnic and linguistic patchwork of the place make its unioning in a risky revolt against Moscow, Chechen-style, a remote possibility.

Chenciner admires the perseverance and diversity of the Daghestanis, and he is right to do so. His book, copiously illustrated with nearly 200 of his photographs, certainly opens a window on a part of the world of which I knew nothing. That having been said, his account will not encourage the casual tourist. Daghestan may not merit the scorn of the young American, but I remain a little suspicious of a place where one of the languages spoken is Bats.

Heard but not seen

By Josh Getlin

Some books should be heard, not read. Consider the moment in Tom Wolfe's new novella when a redneck Marine first opens his mouth. Many English-speaking readers might feel utterly lost. They might even toss the book aside.

"Man was some adder wit chew?" asks Jimmy Lowe, drunk and agitated. "You in see no snakes. I mean, hale, you caint tale me you see no snakes outcher in oo broad daylight." Translation: "Man, what's the matter with you? You aren't seeing no snakes. I mean, hell, you can't tell me you've seen no snakes out here in no broad daylight." Lowe and his barroom buddies speak in a muddy Southern drawl throughout much of *Ambush at Fort Bragg* (Bantam-Doubleday-Dell), and deciphering their white-boy lingo can be frustrating, if not impossible. But most consumers won't face this problem.

Instead, they'll hear actor Edward Norton reading these lines with comic gusto, turning the down-home phonics into a backwoods patois that is more easily understood. By the end of the three-hour tape, Norton brings added life and drama to Wolfe's satiric assault on TV news, military justice and political correctness.

Audio books are nothing new, but the author raised eyebrows this summer when *Ambush at Fort Bragg* was released only in a tape-recorded format. It marked the first time that a work of original American fiction by a major writer has been published in such a manner.

Neither Wolfe nor his publishers wanted the novella (previously serialized in *Rolling Stone*) to steal any thunder from Wolfe's next novel, expected sometime next year. The market may be huge for that work, coming as it does after Wolfe's 1987 runaway best seller, *The Bonfire of the Vanities*. *Ambush at Fort Bragg* (originally intended to be part of the upcoming novel) will be published in book form in the United States at some future date. But it is currently available as a book only in France and Spain.

"We decided to try something new," said Jenny Frost, president of Bantam-Doubleday-Dell's audiobook division. "Normally you have a hard time marketing literary novellas, and this was a unique way to get the work out there quickly." To date, the company has shipped 80,000 copies, which is large compared to most book tapes, Frost added. And the strategy seems to be working: *Ambush at Fort Bragg* has led audio bestseller lists in major bookstores for several weeks.

Like most of Wolfe's works, the *Fort Bragg* tape draws heavily from current events. *The Bonfire of the Vanities* seemed to

anticipate the emergence of such characters as the Rev. Al Sharpton and subway vigilante Bernard Goetz; Wolfe's latest fiction seems eerily reminiscent of other stories that have made the front pages, ranging from the uproar over "gotcha" journalism to military skinheads in North Carolina.

"We wouldn't have done the tape-only marketing if the book wasn't so timely," Frost said, adding, "If you're going to try and reach a new audience, you give people something special."

Bantam's direct-to-audio push comes at a time when the book business is flirting with a variety of new products and marketing techniques. Earlier this year, John Updike wrote the first chapter of a book, put it on the Internet and invited others to complete it. Stephen King has had great success with serialized works, both in conventional print and online.

Wolfe's audio experiment makes economic sense because audio books are the fastest-growing section of the industry, generating an estimated \$1.4 billion in annual retail sales, according to the Los Angeles-based Audio Publishers Association.

But the gambit also has literary ramifications. *Publishers Weekly* said in a review that the rollicking satire, "read aloud, assumes a wild life of its own." And Wolfe himself, never one to miss a pop cultural trend, suggests that producing fiction for tape could portend a new clarity in writing.

"Reading a book and listening to a book are two different experiences," Wolfe said. "And what was tricky about this book is that I wanted the reader to play some intricate mind games with language."

"When Jimmy Wolfe first speaks, a TV producer in the book listening to him can't understand what he's saying. It can be an enjoyable game for me, as a writer, but I didn't know what readers would experience. To hear the same lines read, however, might make them more understandable and more enjoyable."

Wolfe said a friend told him recently that he loved the novella so much that he drove around the block eight times until he reached the conclusion. To the author, that demonstrates the enduring power of clear, narrative fiction.

If more writers produced fiction on tape, Wolfe said, "it might very well add to the overall clarity of writing. Unfortunately, in the 20th century, there's a widespread belief that great writing has to be difficult... anything too easily understood can't be so good. But I couldn't disagree more." Reading, he suggested, is akin to a musical experience, and hearing language makes it even more melodic. At the very least, Wolfe said, "you've got a chance to experiment with a new form, a new creative style, and that's very important."

(Los Angeles Times)

Quality love Down Under

AUSTRALIAN LOVE STORIES: An Anthology edited by Keryn Goldsworthy. Melbourne, Oxford University Press. 384 pp. Price not stated.

By Naomi Rofel

Keryn Goldsworthy's selection of 35 short love stories is delightful and takes us back to the mid-19th century. The anthology is arranged chronologically. The first story was written in 1873; the last, in 1996. The fact that Goldsworthy decided to stick to such an order gives the reader perspective regarding the general development

of Australian history and literature. The early years are a little thin, with a major gap from 1896 to 1920; there is a much higher density and wider range of stories written in the last decade. While this might have a lot to do with the editor's personal taste, it must have been difficult to maneuver among the various factors that had to be considered in selecting the stories - that they be Australian, deal with love, and be of high literary quality.

All but four of the stories are placed in Australia. All but three feature Australians. The stories present the many faces

of the country - the wilderness, settlements, farms, cities and suburbs. They introduce us to a large variety of people who have inhabited the continent, from the classic figures of the early days through to today's so-called X generation, aborigines, immigrants and the gay and lesbian communities whose status in Australia is unique in the world. I would have liked more than just two aboriginal stories.

Three stories left an especially strong impression: Henry Lawson's "Some Day," written in 1896, is about a man who has a job at some far-

away outpost. He mourns the unfulfilled love he left behind and has probably lost forever. Frank Moorhouse's "The Letters," written in 1980, deals with the strong love of a victim of rape for the man who raped him in his youth and still possesses his whole sexual identity. Finally, Venero Armanno's "I Asked the Angels for Inspiration," written in 1995, is about a young man who leads a somewhat chaotic existence among a pub-frequenting crowd in Brisbane, holding on to the misery of a long lost love, for without this misery he has nothing. One problem: the

story's many references to current music, television shows and celebrities are liable to make it irrelevant to readers in, say, another 20 years. Goldsworthy claims that there are many more good love stories written by women than by men. But this is not reflected in her own selection of stories, over half of which were written by men.

The anthology should appeal to those fascinated by the Australian experience, those interested in love stories which go deeper than the popular romantic genre, and those who appreciate well-written short pieces.

BOOK BYTES

The dust jacket trumpets, "200 years ago a Philadelphia newspaper claimed George Washington wasn't the 'father of his country.'" It claimed John Adams really wanted to be king. Its editors were arrested by the federal government. One editor died awaiting trial. The story of this newspaper is the story of America." The newspaper was the *Philadelphia Aurora*, and historian Richard Rosenfeld's hook is called *American Aurora: A Democratic-Republican Returns*. A very hot potato, 10 publishers turned down the manuscript before it found a home with St. Martin's Press.

In 900 pages the American Revolution through the pages of the *Aurora*, published and edited by Benjamin Franklin's grandson B.F. Baché. It was Baché who was arrested under the notorious Sedition Acts and who succumbed while waiting to be tried.

BRITAIN'S Hugh Johnson has made a mint selling wine - indirectly. His famous *Pocket Wine Book* (Mitchell Beazley) is now in its 21st edition, and the English language version alone sells around 250,000 copies yearly. The list sells far and wide, in such diverse places as China, Korea, Poland and the Czech Republic.

Johnson relies on a team of 40 expert correspondents around the world for updates. He avoids "winespeak" and scoring systems. His recommendations run from worthy of "a sniff" at the bottom end of the scale to the ultimate accolade: "you buy the whole chateau."

INVARIABLY, we hear, "Read the book, it's much better than the movie." Well, when thriller writer David Baldacci saw the film premier of his first book *Absolute Power* acted and directed by Clint Eastwood, he had this to say: "First time I saw it was in a 1,200-seat movie theater. In several scenes I wanted to stand up and wave my arms in the air and say, 'Hey, that bit isn't mine.'" He was somewhat pacified to learn that even Emma Thompson did something of a similar job on scenes and characters in her screen adaptation of Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*. "I'm in good company, then," remarked Baldacci.

David Brauner

HARDCOVER Fiction

1. Cold Mountain by Charles Frazier. (Atlantic Monthly \$24.) A Confederate soldier journeys home to meet an old love.
2. Violin by Ann Rice (Knopf \$25.95). From 19th-century Vienna to present-day New Orleans: a demonic fiddler preys upon a woman who loves his music.
3. The Matarese Countdown by Robert Ludlum. (Bantam \$27.50.) A CIA officer struggles to thwart the return of an international cabal.
4. Flood Tide by Clive Cussler. (Simon & Schuster \$26.) Dirk Pitt pursues a Chinese smuggler.
5. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. (Random House \$23.) Booker prize-winner.
6. The Letter by Richard Paul Evans. (Simon & Schuster \$15.95.) In the last volume of the "Christmas Box" trilogy, the Parkin family recovers from its grief over the loss of a daughter.
7. The Best Laid Plans by Sidney Sheldon. (Morrow \$25.) The relationship between a powerful-hungry governor and a woman determined to wreak revenge.
8. The Angel of Darkness by Caleb Carr. (Random House \$25.95.) Dr. Kratzler goes after a kidnapper in 1897 Manhattan.
9. 10 Lb. Penalty by Dick Francis. (Putnam \$24.95.) A politician's career is imperiled by actions taken by his enemies against his son, a onetime amateur jockey.
10. Underworld by Don DeLillo. (Scribner \$27.50.) American life as lived during the past 50 years.

HARDCOVER Non-fiction

1. Diana: Her True Story - In Her Own Words by Andrew Morton. (Simon & Schuster \$22.95.) An updated, expanded version of the 1992 bestseller.
2. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt. (Scribner \$24.) An Irish-American recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
3. The Man Who Listens to Horses by Morley Roberts. (Random House \$23.) The memoirs of a horse trainer.
4. Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil by John Berendt. (Random House \$23.) The mysterious death of a young man in Savannah, Ga.
5. The Royals by Kitty Kelley. (Warner \$27.) Gossip about the House of Windsor.
6. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Villard \$24.95.) An account of the ascent of Mount Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
7. Wait Till Next Year by Doris Kearns Goodwin. (Simon & Schuster \$25.) Recollections of a '50s girlhood in the orbit of the Brooklyn Dodgers.
8. The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger. (Norton \$23.95.) An account of the ascent of Mount Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
9. The Celestine Vision by James Redfield. (Warner \$20.) The author of *The Celestine Prophecy* discusses history, science and spiritual awareness.
10. Conversations with God: Book 1 by Neale Donald Walsch. (Putnam \$19.95.) Questions of life and love, good and evil, guilt and sin.

PAPERBACK Fiction

1. Airframe by Michael Crichton. (Ballantine \$7.99.) A young woman probes a plane's near disaster on its way from Hong Kong to Denver.
2. Jack & Jill by James Patterson. (Warner \$7.50.) Alex Cross on the trail of serial killers in Washington.
3. The MacGregor Brides by Nora Roberts. (Silhouette \$6.99.) A patriarch finds three young men to marry his granddaughters.
4. A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines. (Vintage \$12.) In 1948, a bond is forged between two black men in Louisiana.
5. My Gal Sunday by Mary Higgins Clark. (Pocket \$6.99.) An ex-president and his wife investigate four crimes.
6. Ellen Forster by Kaye Gibbons. (Vintage \$10.) A girl learns self-reliance growing up with wicked relatives in the backwoods South.
7. A Virtuous Woman by Kaye Gibbons. (Vintage \$10.) A young widow, the daughter of Carolina gentry, finds love with a tenant farmer.
8. The Clinic by Jonathan Kellerman. (Bantam \$6.99.) Alex Delaware investigates the murder of a woman who wrote a bestselling indictment of men.
9. Kiss the Airs by James Patterson. (Warner \$6.99.) Police detective Alex Cross pursues a serial killer and his niece's kidnapper.
10. Midnight Lady by Rosemary Rogers. (Aon \$6.99.) Arriving in England from India to claim a share of an estate, a woman faces cold cunning.

PAPERBACK Non-fiction

1. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway \$13.) A celebration of the Italian countryside by a poet.
2. Undaunted Courage by Stephen E. Ambrose. (Touchstone/S&S \$18.) The story of how Thomas Jefferson sponsored Lewis and Clark.
3. The Color of Water by James McBride. (Fiverhead \$12.) A black writer and musician recalls growing up with his white mother in Brooklyn.
4. Seven Years in Tibet by Heinrich Harrer. (Tarcher/Putnam \$13.95.) An Austrian mountaineer recounts his adventures in the 1940s.
5. Hanson by Jill Matthews. (Archway/Pocket \$3.99.) The story of the pop-rock group.
6. Diana: Her True Story by Andrew Morton. (Pocket \$7.50.) The first 30 years of the Princess of Wales.
7. A Civil Action by Jonathan Harr. (Vintage \$13.) Homeholders sue industrial polluters.
8. Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday \$12.95.) A young man's obsession with the wilderness ends tragically in Alaska.
9. Reviving Ophelia by Mary Pipher. (Ballantine \$12.50.) The everyday dangers that beset teenage girls.
10. Girlfriends by Carmen Renee Berry. (Wildcat Canyon \$12.95.) The ties that bind women of all ages.

PAPERBACK Miscellaneous

1. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff ... and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$8.95.) How to enjoy life much more and contribute to the world we live in.
2. Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen and Kimberly Kirshner. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.
3. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon \$6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
4. Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, Jennifer Reed Hawthorne, and Marci Shimoff. (Health Communications \$12.95.) Inspiration.

HARDCOVER Miscellaneous

1. Don't Worry, Make Money by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion \$15.95.) Ways to achieve a more enjoyable and profitable life.
2. Simple Abundance by Sarah Ban Breathnach. (Warner \$17.95.) Advice for women seeking to improve the way they look at themselves.
3. Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus by John Gray. (HarperCollins \$25.) Improving communication and relationships.
4. The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Families by Stephen R. Covey. (Franklin Covey/Golden Books \$25.) Ways to achieve and maintain a happy home life.

The New York Times

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A step backward

Communications Minister Limor Livnat, in a speech to the Likud convention that will likely resonate for some time, warned the delegates that eliminating primaries amounted to "suicide" for the Likud. If Livnat is right, it will be the Likud central committee that committed the act, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu himself in the role of Dr. Kevorkian. The history of conflict between elected leaders and the parties they ostensibly represented is a long and messy one. It is normally a conflict between the short and long term, and between ideology and pragmatism. Presidents and prime ministers tend to be driven by, if not the next news cycle, the next election. Parties are supposed to transcend individual leaders, and force them to plan far beyond their personal careers. The fact that MK Uzi Landau, a senior Likud leader who is not known for shooting from the hip, was the author of the proposal that passed handily early yesterday morning, indicates that a legitimate case can be made against the primary system. Primaries do tend to shift the emphasis from seniority and loyalty to the party ideology toward the building of personal constituencies. To Landau, primaries transform the party from a force in service of an ideal to a vehicle for personal ambitions. What turned the convention into an embarrassing spectacle, then, was not so much the idea of eliminating primaries, but the unabashed revelation of the baser motives that seemed to drive the delegates. When Livnat asked rhetorically whether the Likud had come to power to pander to and provide jobs for the central committee, the crowd yelled back a resounding, "Yes!" The delegates did not seem to care that in the eyes of tens of thousands of party members, let alone the public at large, eliminating primaries is a step backward — away from democracy and toward a revival of the "smoke-filled room" method of choosing leaders. Livnat, in her impassioned speech for keeping the primary system, slammed the factionalism that held sway under the old system, which she claims led to the Likud's defeat in the 1992 elections. For all the problems of the primary system, it is hard to imagine that the Likud will not return to it some day, rather than project the image of a closed, intrigue-filled party. Membership in the Likud more than doubled since the adoption of the

primary system, to about 200,000 people. Now tens of thousands of these members are threatening to turn in their membership cards in protest. The decline in the Likud membership will hurt the party financially, in organizational muscle and therefore, most likely, at the ballot box. It is perhaps understandable that the central committee missed its power and perks under the old system; it is mystifying that it would seek to address these grievances in a way that would alienate so many of its rank-and-file members. Netanyahu's own role is also hard to understand. It is taken as a given, generally and without in his own cabinet that, that as strong as the sentiment was in the central committee against primaries, he could have blocked their cancellation. Now, his ministers feel betrayed. Speculation has already begun about some of them forming a breakaway party. Presumably, Netanyahu believed that stripping the ministers of their primary-based individual power bases would render them more compliant. Even if this works — which is far from a given — it is not clear whether increasing his already unprecedented power within the party will be worth the price. It is a shame that Netanyahu's welcome and conciliatory speeches to the convention, calling for reconciliation and an "outstretched hand" to "our brothers" in the political opposition, were to some degree eclipsed by a display of duplicity and power-drunkness. Despite the distractions posed by Netanyahu's maneuvering in the convention, his change in tone toward the opposition must not be dismissed. Politically and morally, such a tone has been the right thing to do from day one. Though he is late in carrying out his promise to work to heal the rift in the people, the opposition must respond by turning down their rhetoric a few notches and by reversing the recent trend toward holding Netanyahu personally accountable for Yitzhak Rabin's murder. At the same time, Netanyahu had better begin the process of reconciliation very close to home, within his own cabinet. No government can function properly in atmosphere of seething discontent between the prime minister and the cabinet; Netanyahu is beginning to turn away from his combative stance toward the opposition; he should discard his penchant for one-man rule as well.



Passing the buck

In the mid-1950s, the Israeli military intelligence recruited a murderer and thief as an agent to operate abroad in Arab countries. He had never been indicted, because he always had a water-proof alibi when confronted with his ill-deeds. "Who better than such an individual to work for our country," was the reasoning of intelligence chiefs. "He will slay our enemies by order." The man was sent to Buenos Aires to create a credible bogus identity. Instead, he murdered a local Jewish citizen who was helping him, and stole his money. When eventually persuaded to return to Israel for "specialized training," he was tried and imprisoned for murder. The responsibility for this miserable event lay squarely with military intelligence. They should surely have realized that only men with the highest integrity can be entrusted with such vital work of national interest. Today there can be no excuse for any State department chief shrugging off ultimate responsibility for blunders. Which brings us to Avishai Rabin, the GSS agent. Rabin had no criminal record that we know of. Although he started off as a mere informant, a "stinker," he must have impressed his superiors sufficiently to be given a full-time job. Indeed, so trusted was he that he was given the very delicate job of infiltrating settler movements and spying on them. Doubtless the new head of the GSS, Carmi Gillon, took close interest in his work and the work of others like him who were entrusted with this dubious practice. There was deep anger in the GSS that a minor officer had leapt to the top. Not only was prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's decision to appoint Gillon unprofessional, but worse still, it was a political one. He had warned to Gillon because of a thesis he wrote on the dangers of a right-wing settler insurrection. This sentiment was close to the prime minister's deep antipathy to West Bank settlers. Sure enough, the tiny unit involved with spying on Jews was

rapidly expanded. Now both Gillon and his predecessor, Ya'akov Perry, are moving heaven and earth to paint Avishai Rabin not as a murderer and thief but as a kind of delinquent who was a rogue elephant. "He had often acted without the authorization of his operators to carry out

URI DAN DENNIS EISENBERG

Gillon and Perry knew what Rabin was up to. They would never have incited such acts without discussing them with their boss — the prime minister

washing young Jerusalem students, as Rabin did, to make posters of Rabin dressed up like Heinrich Himmler and present them to Israeli TV reporters, urging them to air them immediately? That act brought shame to Israel's name the world over. "What 'dirty tricks' did these big fish do that were worse than Rabin's provoking Yigal Amir to 'prove yourself a man, be macho, let's see you kill Rabin.' This was the evidence that school girls presented to the Shamgar Commission under conditions of great secrecy. And kept secret to this very day. Both Gillon and Perry knew what Rabin was up to, as he worked under both of them. As professionals, both are aware of the illegality of such activities. They would never have incited such acts without discussing them with their boss — the prime minister of Israel. All three men were sufficiently nervous about their actions to seek permission from highest judicial authorities in the land to do so. They knew that such incitement activity is anathema to any democracy in the Western world. We are certain that neither Rabin nor his handlers nor Gillon nor Perry had any idea that Rabin would use the acts of incitement to smear half of the country in speech after speech, as he desperately sought to turn the tide of his rapidly dwindling chances of being re-elected. Let us look at the motives of the present campaign of those who want to distance themselves from the unfortunate Rabin by dismissing him as a slippery, irresponsible, out-of-control deviant. It was wrong for military intelligence to send a man lacking integrity to work in an Arab country 40 years ago. It is even worse to continue to employ an unrepentant delinquent who lacking integrity to spy on fellow Israelis. Let us call a spade a spade: Both Perry and Gillon are blatantly "passing the buck" — a miserable disease which permeates far too much of Israeli society today. The writers are Jerusalem Post columnists.

A master exploiter

It's come to this: Even Yehoshua Matza doesn't trust him anymore. Bibi's done it. At the Likud convention this week, the prime minister alienated every decent-minded human being in his party to the point that even Health Minister Matza, his most faithful, obedient servant, has now seen the light. I watch this stuff and it's like: I'm watching a play. Life isn't supposed to be this pat; the plot of events and characters isn't supposed to seem so inevitable. Who else would Bibi have pined the horns on but Matza? Who else could he have tricked into standing for Likud presidium chairman when the fix was already in? No other party leader would have taken the prime minister's word. He had only one blind loyalist left and, with Bibi, sooner or later a blind loyalist gets hung out to dry. What a spectacle. Two-thousand-odd party backs chanting, "Bibi, Bibi," Netanyahu smiling up there, taking his bows, his ministers sitting quietly behind him on stage, looking thoroughly nauseous. As of this writing, the backs may be chanting something new. The last I heard they'd turned against Avigdor Lieberman, the man who does Netanyahu's dirty work, after discovering that they, too, had been hung out to dry. By now they might have put two and two together and turned against Bibi. Or maybe not. It's a very unstable situation. And what put it in motion? The prime minister's bottomless hunger for power, and his willingness to do anything, deceive anybody, exploit any force no matter how low, to get his way. WHY did he want to scrap the Likud primaries? To ensure that the Knesset members and ministers toed the party ideological line? What party ideological line? Bibi had to choose between keeping his word or reaching for that last rung of power. He went for power. Inevitably. It's in his character. Loyalty to Netanyahu is the only ideology left in the Likud, and that's what Netanyahu intended to enforce. There's nothing unusual about a politician wanting more power. What makes Netanyahu's ploy at the convention so startling is that he already had near-absolute power in the Likud. He's made certain that ever since he took over the party four years ago. But 99% wasn't enough. For that last 1%, for the sake of nailing down those last few loose planks, this is what he was willing to do: Deceive his entire cabinet and the Likud Knesset faction, and swear that he would protect what was left of their independence, when all along he was plotting to cut their legs out from under them. And who did he enlist to do his bidding? A large gathering of greedy men (and a few greedy women) who also live by the creed of power, who want so badly to swear allegiance to a strong leader, and punish any who defy him — if the leader will only put the power to do so in their hands. So Bibi did it. The Central Committee will now determine who's on the Likud Knesset list and who's off. The hacks are preparing to punish the Begins, Livnats, Meridors, Landaus — anyone who dares look the leader in the eye. Netanyahu didn't want to get his ministers and MKs mad. He would have preferred to get his way quietly. But when he couldn't — when he was found out, as Bibi always is — and he had to choose between keeping his word or reaching for that last rung of power, he went for power. Inevitably. It's in his character. Again, this is like watching a play. And he was willing to stage this play with all the nation's spotlight turned on him, in the highest-profile manner possible. All for that last 1%. We are not talking here about ordinary ruthless ambition. We are talking about a ruthless ambition that's uncanny, even eerie. But in plays like this one, the protagonist usually loses in the end. I may be hopelessly optimistic, but I think we may have just witnessed the beginning of the end for Netanyahu's political career. He is now surrounded by enemies of his own making. When even Matza goes against him, this must be the turning point. The writer is a Jerusalem Post columnist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ON THE BEAT

Sir, — Permit me to congratulate you wholeheartedly for publishing Uriel Lynn's admirably accurate and concise comments on the concept of crime prevention in our country "For a better police force." (October 30). In England, one was taught from infancy that the policeman was our friend, there for our protection and always ready and able to lend an

immediate and practical helping hand. One felt reassured just seeing them on patrol — and not just at demonstrations or media-covered "happenings." They were a definite deterrent to petty crime, car theft, breaking and entering, accosting, etc. Is police patrolling considered too humble a service here, inferior somehow to waiting in stations for

us to file our complaints, when it's usually too late? Is it all part of the "Israelis don't like to serve" syndrome? Could we not please adopt the "bobbie on the beat" concept — so often more effective than the police patrol car? AVIVA MARKS Tel Aviv

MISREPRESENTATION

Sir, — Jerusalem Post columnist Larry Derfner in "Blame the victim" (November 6) says political violence is characteristic of the Right and "foreign to the Left." The leftist attack on the home of Yigal Amir's family "is the exception that proves the rule." The Amir home was firebombed three times when people were

inside. More recently there was the Sabbath morning torching of Karmiel Chief Rabbi Avram Margalit's succa, which holds up to 100 people. Derfner would have us believe that the Right roams the country to kill Leftists and to incinerate their institutions. As despicable as even a single incident is, Derfner

grossly misrepresents life in Israel, both as to the source of violence and its extent. He is infected by a combination of love of the Left and hate of the Right, which corrupts his analytical capability. FRANCINE FLERSTEIN Jerusalem

A CURRENT LESSON

Sir, — Your editorial "The Devil's Own Dictator" (November 9) correctly points out the unwillingness of the US and UN paper tigers to act quickly and forcefully against the brazen challenges of Saddam Hussein. You should, however, have added another paragraph in order to bring the lesson home to us here in Israel. We can learn from the current

situation that when Yasser Arafat acts against agreements with us (as he has done consistently and with impunity since the beginning of the misnamed Oslo "peace" process), the democracies will not do anything about it. The conclusion to be reached, therefore, is not to continue in the Oslo errors; not to give an airport or a seaport to bring in tanks and rockets, not to make further dan-

gerous territorial concessions, not to continue to endanger our survival through further legitimizing and arming our (still) declared enemies. The situation in Iraq only points out the folly of depending on agreements with dictators and on promises from paper tigers. SHARONA GLASER Kfar Haroeh

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

50 years ago: On November 13, 1947, The Palestine Post reported extensively on the deliberations of the Partition Committee of the Ad-Hoc Committee on Palestine where various border changes and adjustments were being considered and agreed upon. The committee agreed to six minor frontier revisions proposed by the Jewish Agency which would exclude 9,000 Arabs from the Jewish State. It was also agreed that half of the western shores of the Dead Sea should be incorporated in the Jewish State, while the Palestine Potash Company's royalties would be divided equally between the two states. Mr. Shertok asked for modifications for specific security reasons and to safeguard

future great irrigation projects. Five teenagers, including three girls, were killed in Ra'anana when soldiers on a party of Stern Gang recruits who had tried to break out of a building where they were trapped by a force of British troops and police in armored cars. Later a British Criminal Investigation Department's policeman was killed and three others wounded by a burst of automatic gunfire in a small outdoor cafe in Haifa. A 60-year-old physician, Dr. M. Haselberg, was severely beaten by British soldiers in Shoshanatz Hacamel Street in Haifa. Eliahu Dahan, 17, and Haim Eckhauser, 22, were convicted of carrying firearms and sentenced to 20

years in prison by Haifa Military Court. 25 years ago: On November 13, 1972, The Jerusalem Post reported that Egypt received 60 surface-to-air missiles and advisers from the Soviet Union. Nina and Natalia, accompanied by the latter's daughter Victoria and her husband, the two daughters and a granddaughter of the late Shlomo Mikhoels, the noted Yiddish stage artist who was murdered by Stalin, arrived as immigrants. The widow and son of the poet Peretz Markish, Mikhoels's close friend who was himself executed in 1952, also arrived to settle here. Alexander Zvielli

Matters of appearance

STEWART WEISS

Some years ago, I was asked to visit a Jewish bookstore in the city where I lived. I was told that the proprietor was selling mezuzot that contained photocopies of the biblical passages that go inside the mezuzah, as opposed to the hand-written parchment that the Halacha requires. On confronting the store owner, I was told that yes, what I had heard was accurate; he was indeed selling xeroxed copies. He explained that this was because much of the public at large — while they did not hesitate to spend large sums on ornate, artistic or golden mezuzah covers — balked at paying the asking price for the authentic parchment that went inside and couldn't be seen. When I began to protest, he stopped me cold with yet another revelation: "Rabbi," he said almost apologetically, "you would be amazed at the number of people who have nothing at all inside their mezuzot!" Indeed, as I further investigated the matter, I discovered, to my chagrin, that there are more than a few empty mezuzot hanging from the doors of our Jewish homes. I have come to realize that the empty-mezuzah syndrome extends far beyond the ritual commandment of adorning our doorposts. It is a widespread phenomenon that afflicts our religion and nation as a whole: We are far more concerned with exteriors than we are with what comes inside. For years this has been a charge leveled at the Orthodox by the non-Orthodox, who claim that the observant world is supremely concerned with form and hardly at all with substance. And I suppose there is a kernel of truth in this, for sometimes an undue emphasis is put by

the religious world on what kind of kippa or hat one wears, the color of one's suit or length of beard. But the same sin of superficiality can also be assigned to the non-Orthodox, as has become glaringly apparent in the continuing battle being waged by Reform and Conservative rabbis against the Orthodox establishment. The empty-mezuzah syndrome extends far beyond the ritual commandment of adorning our doorposts

this is all really a struggle for prestige, for honor, for appearance. The Reform/Conservative rabbis, when all is said and done, demand to be certified as full-fledged clergymen and bestowed with recognition and legitimacy by our society, despite the fact that they live half a world away and take every liberty imaginable with Jewish law and tradition. And if they don't get their way, they warn us, then they will take their donations and their Zionist support and their Odious kind of "religious coercion," the very crime of which they accuse others? And so to focus this crisis we should stop focusing on externals, on labels and stereotypes and titles. Let us simply declare that those Jews who come here and choose fully and freely to identify with the Jewish people, who accept a Jewish lifestyle upon themselves, and who follow the traditional rules of conversion that have been practiced for hundreds of years be accepted as Jews. No matter what their sponsors may be, regardless of what "stream" they define themselves in, they should be accepted as Jews. I feel sure that when God looks down from above, He sees Jews, not labels; He looks for deeds, not denominations; He judges people not by the size of their hat, but rather by the size of their heart; and He cares about conduct much more than honor. Let's stop focusing on the mezuzah cover — glittering as it may be — and start concentrating on the real issues within. The writer is the director of the Jewish Outreach Center of Ra'anana.

Hot tips

A master exploiter

LARRY DERFNER

I come to this... Bibi had to choose between keeping his word or reaching for power. He went for power. Inevitably, it's in his character...

Bibi had to choose between keeping his word or reaching for power. He went for power. Inevitably, it's in his character...

Weekender

Clubbing 101

By TRACY FISKE

AFTER HOURS

Last week, the nation's university students scurried back to their respective campuses for another year of academia - and all the pressures and anxiety that accompany it. All that stress can make one awfully thirsty and in need of a place to blow off some steam. That's the concept behind the Campus nightclub...



Judi Dench (left) and Billy Connolly (right) in a scene from the movie 'Mrs. Brown'.

Judi Dench as Queen Victoria: She was very amused

In the new movie about the strangely passionate relationship between Queen Victoria and her Scottish servant John Brown, the British actress adds to her roster of monarchs

By ALAN RIDING
I don't like making films, Judi Dench announced disarmingly, explaining in one simple phrase why so admired a British stage and television actress should be largely unknown outside her country. "I never have liked making films. I like doing a play because you go on and on and it gets better. I don't like doing one or four takes, because I'm not sure of myself."

Brown, "and we continued laughing until the very end of the shoot. It was wonderful. One day he and I were in a boat and the water was seeping in. We sat there in the loch for four hours until the water was up to our waists. But it was OK, Billy kept us all laughing."

that she considered him her best friend and he was running the court. Soon scandal sheets were describing them as lovers (they were roughly the same age, in their late 40s) and mocking Victoria as Mrs. Brown. Finally, at the behest of prime minister Benjamin Disraeli (played by Antony Sher), Brown persuaded the queen to return to public life. After that, his influence waned, but he remained at court until his death in 1883.

rified doctors said, "For heaven's sake, put some flowers over that." So, to repulse the question that intrigued Victorian England, exactly how close were they? "She believed that Albert's spirit had entered Brown," Dench explained in an interview at the Royal National Theater in London, where she was rehearsing David Hare's new play, 'Amy's View,' in which she plays an aging actress struggling to keep her name in lights.

tion between queen and commoner, and it's evident that at least in the early years of their relationship Brown held sway over Victoria. But Dench could be right. Amid the bowing and scraping of the court, Victoria may have felt it sufficed to be fond of someone whose only interest was to protect and entertain her. To the world, she remained haughty, intimidating and "not amused"; with Brown, she let down her guard.

Hot tips
By KAREN SULKIS
Tel Aviv Area
The imposing statesman was just here, but that can't stop come-

dian Ori Hochman from 'Missing Kissinger' already. The provocatively named one-man show is directed by Jack Messinger. Tonight at 9 at ZOA House. Call 695-9341.

Edna Goren and Danny Gottfried play jazz tonight at 10 at Apropos, 1 Avner Zahala. Call 648-7098. 'Raspberry Juice' is a musical based on a story by Chaya Shenav. It plays today at 5 p.m. at the Hechal Cinema in Petah Tikva.

Jerusalem
Play for Peace, a celebration of coexistence, features musical ensembles, photo exhibits and theatrical pieces related to the timely topic of peace. Tonight at 6:30 at Gerard Behar/Leo Model Hall, 11 Bezalel. Call (053) 537-014. The Hadassah community center

And Points Beyond
Kol D'mama presents How To Remember, a work by choreographer Moshe Efrati. Tonight at 8:30 at Beit She'an, Kiryat. Direct from the United States, the Queen of All Saints Basilica Choral Ensemble presents a free program of sacred music and American spirituals, based on both Biblical testaments. Tonight at 8:30 in Ness Amim.

Music on my mind

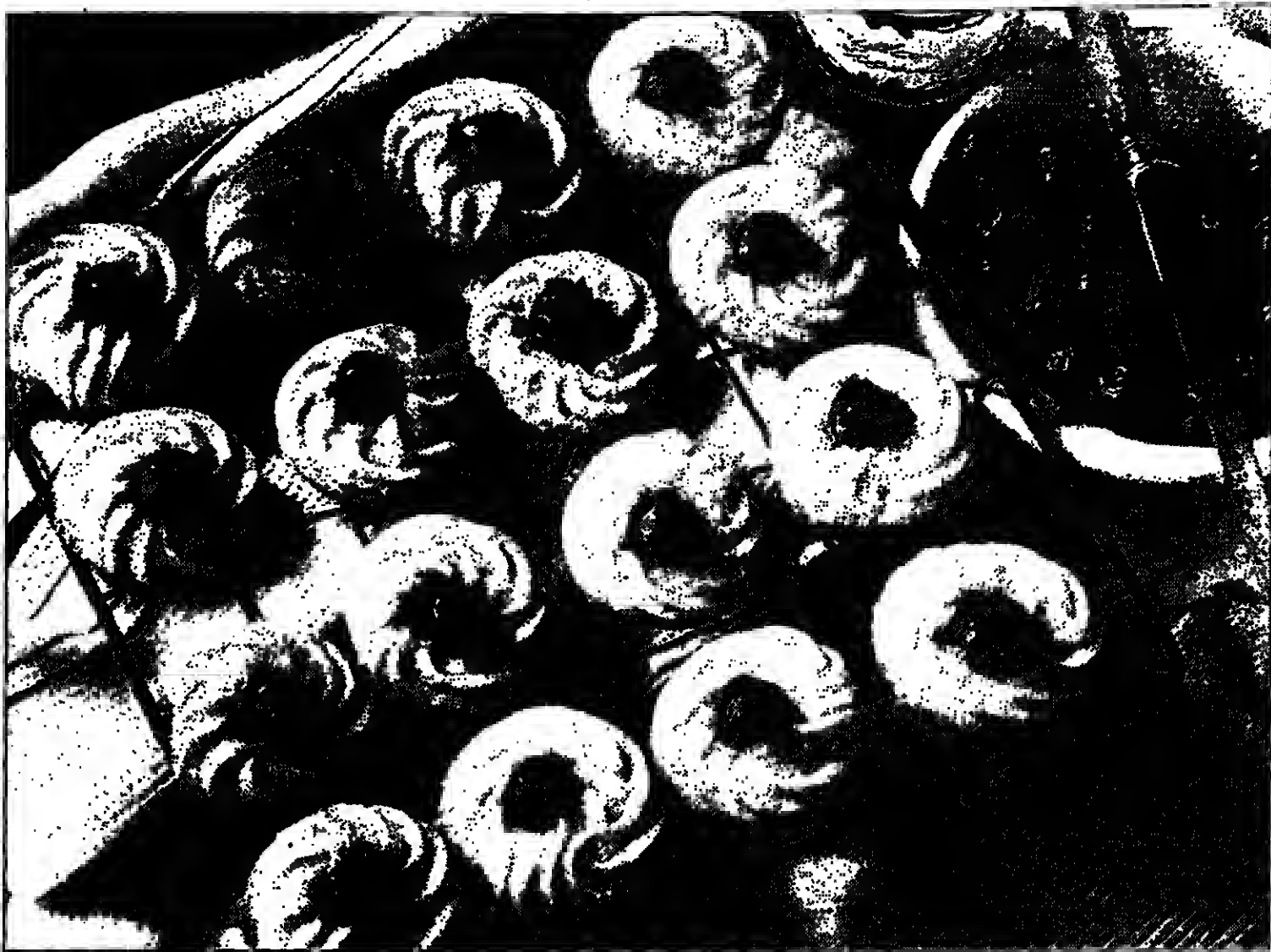
Former Prisoner of Zion Yosef Begun talks about his favorite music

Born in Moscow, Yosef Begun was almost 40 years old when he applied to the Soviet government for permission to emigrate to Israel. He was dismissed from his position as an electronics and radio engineer in the military industry. He became an activist in the Soviet Jewry movement and spent a total of 10 years in Soviet prisons and Siberian exile. Finally, in January 1988, Begun arrived in Israel.

from the Bible like "Yisrael B'rach B'hashem" (Israel, trust in God). But I also enjoyed nonreligious singers like Chava Alberstein and Geula Gil. It was all a mirror for our souls. We weren't allowed to listen to the music, but we did anyway because we were determined to win in our fight for aliyah.



- 1. French chansoniers
2. Music of the streets
3. Stirrings of the Jewish soul
4. New land, new beginnings
5. Nostalgia



Making the rounds

By MARGE PERRY & JIM FOBEL

Wouldn't it be wonderful to have time to bake cookies with your kids, to offer a plate of warm, freshly baked cookies to friends who drop by, or to just fill your home with an aroma guaranteed to melt the heart of even the grumpiest neighbor? If baking cookies on anything other than an occasional basis seems like a fantasy in your time-pressed life, we've got a way for you to whip up a batch whenever the mood strikes - and in only 15 minutes. Below are recipes for slice-and-bake cookies.

They're much tastier than what you can buy in the supermarket, and probably healthier as well. (Most of these cookies have about 60 calories and 2 grams of fat per serving.)

The basic recipe is made from ingredients you probably have on hand; just mix them up, form the log, and keep it handy in your refrigerator or freezer. At a moment's notice, you can cut it into slices, pop them in the oven for 10 minutes, and serve them to unexpected visitors or hungry children.

BASIC ICEBOX SUGAR COOKIES

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
4 Tbsp. margarine, softened
1/2 cup sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 large egg white
cooking spray

Combine the first 3 ingredients in a bowl, and set aside.

Beat margarine at medium speed of a mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add sugar, beating at medium speed of a mixer until well-blended. Add vanilla and egg white, and beat well. Add flour mixture and stir until well-blended.

Turn dough out onto wax paper and shape into a 15 cm. log. Wrap log in wax paper and freeze for 3 hours or until very firm.

Preheat oven to 175°. Cut log into 24 slices, and place slices 3 cm. apart on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan, and cool on wire racks. (Makes 2 dozen.)

PEANUT BUTTER ICEBOX COOKIES

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
3 Tbsp. margarine, softened
2 Tbsp. chunky peanut butter
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 large egg white
cooking spray

Combine first 3 ingredients and set aside.

Beat margarine and peanut butter at medium speed of a mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add sugars, beating at medium speed until well-blended. Add vanilla and egg white and beat well. Add flour mixture; stir well.

Turn dough out onto wax paper; shape into a 15 cm. log. Wrap log in wax paper; freeze 3 hours.

Preheat oven to 175°. Cut log into 24 slices and place slices 3

1/4 cup sugar
2 tsp. grated lemon rind
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 large egg white
cooking spray

Combine the first 4 ingredients in a bowl and set aside.

Beat the margarine at medium speed of a mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add the sugar, beating at medium speed of a mixer until well-blended. Add the lemon rind, vanilla extract and egg white and beat well. Add the flour mixture and stir until well-blended.

Turn the dough out onto wax paper and shape into a 15 cm. log. Wrap the log in wax paper and freeze for 3 hours or until very firm.

Preheat oven to 175°. Cut log into 24 slices and place slices 3 cm. apart on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake at 175° for 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan and cool on wire racks. (Makes 2 dozen.)

white and beat well. Add flour mixture and stir until well-blended. Turn dough out onto wax paper; shape into a 15 cm. log. Wrap log in wax paper; freeze 3 hours or until very firm.

Preheat oven to 175°. Cut log into 24 slices and place slices 3 cm. apart on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan; cool on wire racks. (Makes 2 dozen.)

Spice Variation: Add 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon and 1/4 tsp. ground cloves to flour mixture.

Freckled Chocolate Variation: Add 30 gr. of grated semisweet chocolate to the flour mixture.

Espresso Mocha Variation: Add 2 tsp. instant espresso granules or 4 tsp. instant coffee granules to flour mixture.

CHOCOLATE ICEBOX COOKIES

Rolling the dough in turbinado sugar gives the cookies a sugary edge. Turbinado sugar is a coarse, blond-colored sugar with a delicate molasses flavor.

1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
4 Tbsp. margarine, softened
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 large egg white
2 Tbsp. turbinado sugar
cooking spray

Combine first 4 ingredients in a bowl; set aside.

Beat margarine at medium speed of a mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add granulated sugar, beating at medium speed of a mixer until well-blended. Add vanilla and egg white and beat well. Add flour mixture and stir until well-blended.

Turn dough out onto wax paper; shape into a 15 cm. log. Wrap log in wax paper; freeze 3 hours or until very firm.

Preheat oven to 175°. Roll log in turbinado sugar. Cut log into 24 slices; place 3 cm. apart on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan; cool on wire racks. (Makes 2 dozen.)

BROWN SUGAR ICEBOX COOKIES

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
4 Tbsp. margarine, softened
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1 tsp. vanilla extract
1 large egg white
cooking spray

Combine first 3 ingredients in a bowl and set aside.

Beat margarine at medium speed of a mixer until light and fluffy. Gradually add sugar, beating at medium speed of a mixer until well-blended. Add vanilla and egg



cm. apart on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan and cool on wire racks. (Makes 2 dozen.)

Chocolate-Peanut Butter Variation: Add 30 gr. grated semisweet chocolate to the flour mixture.

LEMON-CORNMEAL ICEBOX COOKIES

1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup yellow cornmeal
1/4 tsp. baking soda
1/4 tsp. salt
4 Tbsp. margarine, softened

More than just taste

Wine Cellar

By NOGA TARNOPOLSKY

A recent wine tasting I attended ended with the moment one of the participants said, "The first thing I can say about these four wines is that they should be drunk out of beakers and not out of these crystal glasses, and preferably (frankly) outside at a picnic." The statement caused the roomful of novice wine tasters to stare inquisitively at their glasses.

Despite the stern, almost monkish attitude adopted by more than a few wine critics, wines are simply not at their most pleasing when consumed in the sterile absence of any other stimuli: Temperature, light and air quality all impact upon the experience. But food is the principal partner of fine wines, which generally are intended to be enjoyed as part of the larger experience of a meal, with its various dishes and its various participants.

As always, the table itself impacts upon the

experience. Aesthetics cannot be separated from the sensual experience of ingesting food and wine. I still remember a childhood debate instigated by a biology teacher, ironically named Mrs. Love. She asked our class if one could take all the calories, minerals and vitamins necessary for survival in the form of a small tablet, would that not be preferable to the more traditional manner of satisfying these basic human needs. The answer, then as now, clearly is no.

Foods and wines respond to much more than the simple need for nutrition. They also answer our needs for beauty and delicacy, for rest and community and pleasure. As important as the wine you drink, therefore, is the

goblet you drink it from.

George Reidel, who heads his family's crystal business, claims to create glasses designed to guide the wine to specific parts of our palate. As strange as this sounds, or as luxurious, it seems to work. *The Wine Advocate* wrote that "the finest glasses for both technical and hedonistic purposes are those made by the Reidel Company."

These glasses are expensive, selling for close to NIS 200 a glass. However, they are worth trying, not only for the way they direct wine to your palate, but also for the way they magnify and enhance the wine's aroma and for the simple pleasure of holding them in your hands.

Weekend Food & Drink



Chocolate-Peppermint Variation: Substitute 1 tsp. of peppermint extract for the vanilla extract.

CHOCOLATE-AND-VANILLA STRIPED COOKIES

Prepare the doughs for the chocolate icebox cookies and either the basic icebox sugar cookies or the brown sugar icebox cookies. Shape each batch of dough into a 15 cm. log and wrap in wax paper. Freeze for 3 hours or

until firm. Cut each log of dough lengthwise into 4 pieces. Make 2 stacks of dough, alternating chocolate and sugar-cookie dough. Wrap in wax paper and freeze 3 hours or until firm.

Preheat oven to 175°. Cut each log into 24 slices; place 3 cm. apart on a baking sheet coated with cooking spray. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from pan; cool on wire racks. (Makes 4 dozen.)

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Phyllis's Tips

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Israelis love good bread. And in the last decade, Israelis also have developed a great affection for pizza.

Perhaps that is why Deco has just added frozen stuffed baguettes to its product line. The already-baked baguettes are intended to be heated briefly in the oven and then served. The Pizza Baguette contains tomato sauce and cheese, the Zaatar and Olive Oil Baguette has garlic and cheese, and the Garlic Baguette has garlic and parsley. The company says that they contain no food colorings or preservatives. They weigh in at 200-240 gr. each and sell for NIS 7.80.

Attractively packaged, they are distributed by Food Club. These are truly the lazy person's food, since it is not really hard to add a little tomato sauce and cheese to a baguette and pop it in the toaster oven. Nutritionally speaking, these snacks provide more calories than anything else. But if you're feeling lazy, and planning to make an Italian- or Mediterranean-style dinner, it is easy to just pop the prepared baguette into the oven and slice it to serve with your dinner.

Processed flavor
Another new Food Club product is American Kalburgers, reduced-fat chicken burgers made for the company by Ofek Hagalil in Kiryat Shmona. According to the communique provided with the product, these chicken burgers, fried in vegetable oil, contain 20 percent less calories per 100 gr. than other processed chicken products. However, they are too

salty and have that unique taste found only in processed meats.

Store them in the freezer and reheat them in an oven, toaster oven or microwave, or deep- or pan-fry them. We tried them microwaved and they were robbery. They probably would taste better fried, as everything does. If your children aren't discerning, this could make a quick meal. A 900 gr. package costs NIS 16.50.

Something fishy

If you would like to learn how to cook fish, Chef Oren Giron, the chef of the Fish Growers Association, can give you a first-hand lesson. All you need to do is call him and set up a time, invite over 20 friends or even buy the basic cooking ingredients. Giron will bring the fish and 778 olive oil, give a short lecture, answer questions and demonstrate a few recipes, which you and your guests can consume at the end of the evening. And the best part is that it is free. To arrange an evening, call (03)-561-7835.

PICKLED ST. PETER'S FISH

A sample recipe from Giron's collection

1 kg. filet St. Peter's Fish, sliced
1/2 kg. kosher salt
1/2 bunch fresh thyme, washed
coarsely ground black pepper
1 liter 778 garlic-flavored olive oil

Place the filets in a strainer over a bowl and mix with the salt. Let stand 5-6 hours in the refrigerator. Rinse under running water and place in a large glass jar that can be sealed hermetically. Sprinkle fish with thyme and

black pepper and cover with the olive oil. Place in the refrigerator and let marinate for three days. Goes well with toasted whole grain bread. (Serves 4-6.)

Excellent Bagels

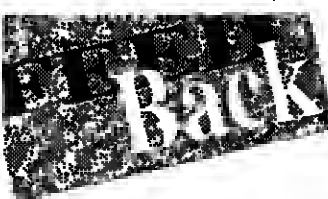
Okay, I'm convinced. H & H Bagels really are good! We tried the poppy seed variety, and they were easy to slice, rich in flavor and had a generous amount of the poppy seeds. They have that firm but tender bite that a bagel should have, and most Israeli copies don't.

And if you think that Dunkin' Donuts' bagels are better, then you have been fooled. They use H & H Bagels too.

H & H boiled its first bagel in 1972 and now makes 200 million bagels a year. Rated as New York's No. 1 bagel in the prestigious Zagat Survey, H & H has been featured on CNN, *Good Morning America*, *LA Law*, *Seinfeld*, *Friends* and dozens of other programs and publications.

Former Brooklyn native and assistant school principal Gary Heller began importing H & H bagels into Israel in 1995. They are boiled, baked till they're three-quarters done, flash frozen in NY and shipped to Israel. Ten varieties are available here: plain; poppy; onion; sesame; garlic; cinnamon raisin; pumpkinseed; whole wheat; sourdough; and "Everything" (poppy, onion, sesame and garlic).

They can be bought wholesale in freezer containers of 48. They also are delivered to hotels, cafes, bakeries and supermarkets in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, among other areas. Fat and cholesterol free (except for the poppy seed and sesame ones), they are certified kosher parve by the Jerusalem Rabbinat and Pas Yisroel.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

In a previous column (Feedback, August 8), you wrote that Dr. Rami Lam of the Poultry Marketing Board said the reason the chickens sold in Israel are not clean is that they are not soaked before cleaning because of kashrut. Does this mean that all the beautifully clean chickens bought by thousands of Jews in the US and England and which are certified kosher and even glatt kosher in both these countries are not really kosher?

- H. Saehker, Jerusalem

No, it just means that they use a different method of preparing their poultry. The method involves using hand labor and machinery that is more expensive than the method used by the Israeli industry.

Should I take out the dead white grains that I find when

checking long-grain white rice before cooking it? Are there quality differences in long-grain white rice? Which is the best way to prepare the rice: adding it to the pot after the water boils or starting with a pot containing cold water and rice?

- Kate Firestone Siffan, Jerusalem

According to David Franklin, director of Samolina, which produces Sugat rice, there are huge quality differences between types of long-grain rice, which explains the difference in prices for what seems to be the same product. There are no government standards for rice, so different companies may sell the same product under different names. Other companies mix low- and high-quality long-grain rice.

There are over 1,000 different types of rice, that are divided into two basic categories: Japonica (sticky, round) and long grain.

Cooking methods are individual; there is no right way to cook rice. The result depends on the amount of starch in the original rice grain. Cheaper rice generally has more starch, and the cooked rice will be more sticky, as is preferred in the Far East. In Israel, we like to see individual grains, which is why

Parsi and Basmati rice are so popular here.

In the Far East, it is customary to add 2 1/4 cups of cold water to 1 cup of rice, bring to a boil, swirl once with a spoon, lower heat to a simmer, cover, cook for about 13 minutes, turn off heat and let sit 10 minutes undisturbed to steam. In the Near East, the rice is often sauteed first in oil, together with onion and/or garlic. Then add 2 cups of water for each cup of rice, cook for about 7 minutes, turn off heat and let sit undisturbed for about 20 minutes.

I like to saute rice in a little oil (or add the oil to the pot without sauteing) and add cold water. I cook till the water is absorbed, and it works out fine.

As for the white grains, these are merely an indication that air has gotten into the grain. They do not need to be discarded.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post Magazine, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by E-mail: Phyllisfood@jpost.co.il

Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually.

Feedback also appears in the Jerusalem Post Magazine on Friday.



Tomb of Rachel: A shrine becomes a fortress

Weekender Travel

Day Tripper By Haim Shapiro

When thousands of pilgrims visited the tomb of Rachel to mark the anniversary of the death of the matriarch this week, they did not find the traditional domed building, which has been commemorated on a host of Jewish ritual objects, but a newly constructed, long, fortress-like structure.

For many pious pilgrims, aesthetics are of secondary importance; what is important is the holiness of the site itself. For many others, however, much of the mystique of the building is bound up in its traditional structure.

The tomb, which is located on the northern outskirts of Bethlehem, is first mentioned in Genesis, but the most beautiful biblical reference is from Jeremiah, who visualizes mother Rachel weeping for her children as they are being taken into exile. In a passage which has become a watchword for the Jewish return to Zion, God comforts Rachel and tells her that her children will return.

According to the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, what we think of as the traditional domed structure is relatively new. Travelers from the 11th through the 18th century described an open gravesite consisting of 11 stones, laid by the 11 sons of Jacob, covered by one large stone, laid down by Jacob himself.

In the 18th century, the tomb was covered by a dome supported by four pillars and at the end of the same century, the structure was enclosed. The final renovation came in 1841 from funds supplied by Moses Montefiore.

The visitor would find a small domed building divided inside into a series of rooms. At the end was the giant cenotaph marking the gravesite, covered with a collection of embroidered cloths.

Both the observant and non-observant would come and light candles and pray, often for the sick. It was customary to measure the tomb with a red thread and beggars would often cut these threads into smaller lengths and sell them to visitors, who would tie them around their wrist as a talisman.

Despite the fact that it is not ancient, the domed structure has become ingrained in Jewish consciousness. It appears in numerous photographs and prints, and it has been pictured on everything from kippot to kiddush cups. For me, at least, the small domed building had a certain modest grandeur.

That is hardly something that you could say about the present structure. The outside wall, despite a relief tracery of arches, looks to me like the exterior of a parking garage.

I am fully aware that the building, as it stood before the recent

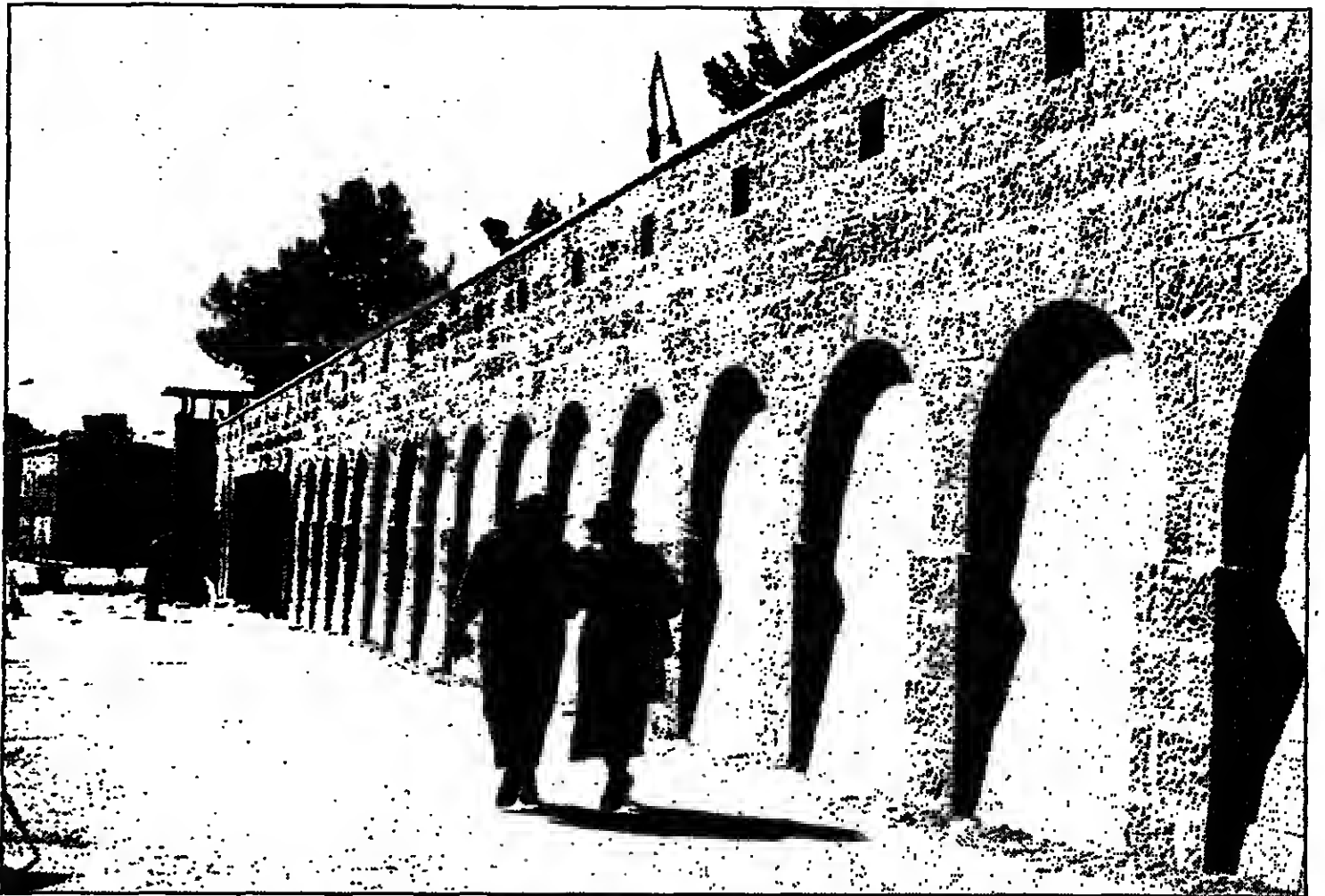
construction, had certain problems. On days of mass pilgrimage, it could not possibly accommodate all the visitors, some of whom never even got inside. And, because the shrine marks the boundary between Israeli and Palestinian jurisdiction, it also presents something of a security problem, both for the guards and the visitors.

Now, the watchtowers rising above Rachel's Tomb make it very clear that this is as much a fortress as a shrine.

To reach the tomb, the visitor follows a long corridor, apparently designed to accommodate the crowds, which is lit with recessed lighting. The old Ottoman gateposts, with the sultan's seal, look rather out of place here in these modern surroundings.

Finally, you reach the shell of the old building, which has been stripped down, with its dome hidden from view. The cenotaph remains inside, but it is dwarfed by the new structure. One of the few picturesque features that has been left is a well with an inscription attesting to the fact that it was built from funds provided by the Jewish community of Bombay.

No doubt, with time, the building will age. If nothing else does it, the smoke from the thousands of candles lit there should do the job.



The small, domed building that used to house the tomb of Rachel had a modest grandeur; the present structure (above) looks like the exterior of a parking garage. (Bryan McBurney)

Close Encounters By Allan Rabinowitz

Twin peaks in the lower Galilee

For the stunning view alone, it is worth pulling off the main road west of Tiberias to climb the steep but short path (five minutes) up the Horns of Hittim, the trapezoidal plateau named for two sharp rises near the northern and southern edges. Green and open from early winter onward, the slopes are carpeted with poppies, hyacinth, lupines and other flowers.

From the top we see the Valley of the Doves meandering toward the north, the cliffs of the Arbel jutting forth below us, the hills of Upper Galilee, the Kinneret shining in its basin to the east and the Golan Heights beyond. Here, in 1187, an embattled Crusader army also stood.

They had little time, however, to appreciate the view, engaged as they were in a monumental battle which decimated their troops and snapped the spine of Christian sovereignty in the Middle East.

Amazingly, nothing has really changed on this slightly sunken plateau since then. No monument, no building, no manicured park mars the the rawness of this ancient battlefield.

Picture the massive army, some 22,000 strong, marching toward us from its base in Tzippori, along a circuitous route of some 40 km. on a blazing hot, dry day. The infantry slogs along in chain mail and leather jerkins, carrying heavy double-bladed swords. The knights, wearing iron mail and helmets fashioned like round, flat-topped steel boxes, ride on slow, heavy steeds ahead and behind the foot soldiers.

They had set out early this morning with high spirits, determined to smash a huge Moslem "infidel" army. They were united in a way that had eluded them for several years, since the much-loved and respected King Baldwin IV, ruler of the Christian Kingdom of Jerusalem, succumbed to leprosy at age 24, leaving a power vacuum behind him.

Loyalties were split between Raymond of Tripoli, an experienced soldier acting as regent, and Baldwin's brother-in-law, Guy of Lusignan, a court dandy with little military experience.

Saladin, the astute, experienced Moslem leader of the Ayyubid empire, was seeking to exploit Christian divisiveness and smash the hated Kingdom of Jerusalem, which had controlled the Land of Israel since 1099.

River with a huge army menacing Crusader Tiberias. In response to the threat, King Guy's rule, is acknowledged by all, even Raymond of Tripoli. Raymond has counseled caution and prudence in the face of a shrewd opponent, even though his own family is trapped in Tiberias, which Saladin has set ablaze.

King Guy, however, with no strategy, impulsively accedes to the demands of several barons for an immediate attack. So with no preparation and no water carts, he launches his army eastward.

As the cumbersome army reaches today's Golan Junction, harassment against its flanks by lightly armed Moslem horsemen intensifies. As the two armies at last face off along the plateau, the

Crusaders, hoping to reach Tiberias, charge the mobile enemy ranks. But the Moslem army melts to the sides, and the Christian army pours into the shallow pan between the Horns of Hittim where you now stand.

Water and only water matters. Temples pound, heads throb, limbs feel drained of strength as the Crusaders spend a hot, arrow-riddled night between these horns. In the morning, stumbling among the basal pits and boulders concealed by thistles and matted dry grass, knights and

infantry muster repeatedly attempting to hack through the ring. But now the Moslems ignite the brush, and the easterly wind fans the flames toward the Christian army. Some are roasted in their armor, others choked by the blinding smoke. The knights hurt ever weaker charges across the pock-marked terrain. Groups of infantry mutiny. Desperate knots of men, eyeing the shimmering Kinneret as we do today, try to break through to reach it and are slaughtered.

After another waterless night in this scorched pan, some knights sneak over to the enemy and beg for death.

Raymond of Tripoli, with the king's blessing, breaks through the encirclement with a contingent of knights and escapes to Tripoli, to fight another day. Without water, food, strength or hope, the Christians fight in a steadily shrinking ring until the king's tent and standard have collapsed. The Moslem fighters move in and find survivors too exhausted to fight or even surrender. It is all over.

Today, walking amid the boulders and dry grass, from rim to



Today, walking amid the boulders and dry grass, from rim to rim, you can feel how the Crusaders were trapped and immolated here. You can imagine the great, defeated army.

rim, you can feel how the Crusaders were trapped and immolated here. You can imagine the great, defeated army. As a Moslem chronicler described it (in a passage which should be memorized by every modern political leader) as he accompanied Saladin on a victory tour of the battlefield: "...naked, torn shreds of flesh, stumps of flesh, crushed skulls, cloven necks, loins smashed, sliced heads, feet cut off, noses cut off, extremities hacked away, empty eyes, open bellies, bodies cut in two, shriveled mouths, gaping foreheads out of which eyes trickled..."

The surviving infantry were force-marched to the Damascus slave markets; 200 knights were beheaded on the spot and the rest slaughtered in Damascus. Saladin personally stabbed one despised baron.

Only King Guy and a few nobles were spared.

Un defended and vulnerable, a series of fortresses - Jaffa, Acre, Tzippori, Caesarea, Nazareth, Nablus, Beirut, and Ashkelon - fell or surrendered after this baneful in the Horns of Hittim, and by late September, Jerusalem itself fell.

For almost another hundred years, the husk of the Christian

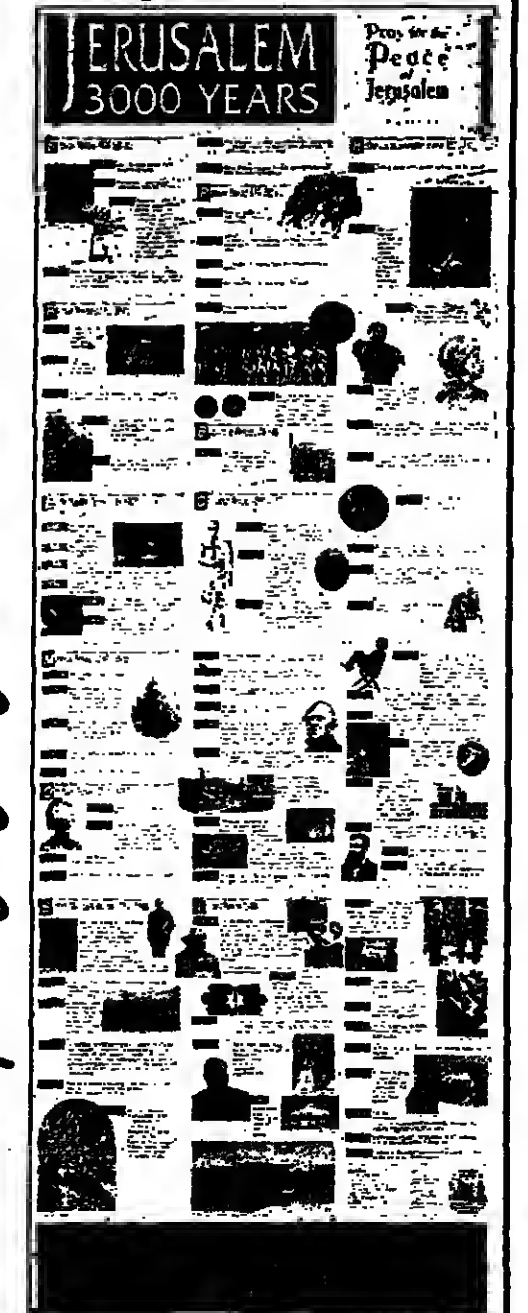
kingdom clung to the Mediterranean coast, and the nobles of the Kingdom of Jerusalem held their court and retained their titles. But the kingdom was only a mirage, shimmering through the smoke that rose from the Horns of Hittim.

The Horns of Hittim can be climbed at any time, though the road can be muddy after rain. Down the western slope stands a site holy to the Druse, the traditional tomb of Jethro, father-in-law of Moses. It makes for an interesting visit and can be reached by unpaved road from Kfar Hittim.

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Bridge

The system backfires

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer
North-South vulnerable

North
♠ 3
♥ Q 10 7 5
♦ Q J 10 8 6 4 3
♣ A

West East
♠ Q 8 ♠ 10 9 7 5 4
♥ 6 ♥ 9
♦ 7 5 2 ♦ A K 9
♣ K 10 9 8 6 4 2 ♣ Q 7 5 3

South
♠ A K J 6 2
♥ A K J 8 4 3 2
♦ -
♣ J

Closed Room:
West North East South
1 NT 2 NT 3 ♣ 1 ♣
4 C 4 ♣ 5 ♣ 3 ♣
pass 6 ♣ pass 7 ♣
(all pass)

Open Room:
West North East South
3 C 3 ♣ 5 ♣ pass
pass 5 ♣ pass 5 ♣
pass 6 ♣ (all pass)

The next-to-last set of 16 deals of the Bermuda Bowl, played in Tunisia last week, was a crucial set. Although France had a 50-imp lead over the US, they were about to play against two of the strongest partnerships in the world, Bob Hamman and Bobby Wolff, and Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell. It is psychologically easier to play when you are 50 imps down in a match because the pressure is off, and you can play a loose style. On the other side, the French, up by 50, knew they were about to be attacked by particularly aggressive bidding and, with a little bit of bad luck, the cards "could turn."

The first deal, however, turned out to be a big swing for France. It was the French North-South that reached a grand slam, making, while the US pair in the Open Room stopped in a small slam. The fault was partially in the Americans' bidding system. In the Open Room, South (Hamman) opened a strong ooe club (the Americans use a Strong Club System, in which the ooe-club opening bid shows 17 or more points). The problem here was the vulnerability. Since East-West had the "greco light" (the expression used for players who are not vulnerable versus vulnerable opponents), the artificial, strong ooe-club opening practically begged

West to interfere. Indeed, West (Michel Perron) jumped to three clubs, a preemptive move to take up bidding space from North-South. Notice that in the Closed Room, the West player (Meckstroth) overcalled one notrump instead of bidding three clubs. This was a system error as well. His one notrump showed a strong notrump or a long suit and a weak hand, but by bidding one notrump instead of revealing his club suit, he prevented his partner from leaping to five clubs; now his opponents had much more bidding space with which to maneuver.

Let's continue to examine the Closed Room auction. North's two-notrump bid was (by agreement) a strong raise in hearts, and East's three-heart call was a request for partner to show his long suit if he had one. South (Christian Mari) now had the luxury of hiding his spade suit and West showed his club suit. When East raised to five clubs, it was too late. South cuebid five diamonds and, upon hearing his partner jump to slam, South made the excellent (and brave) call of seven hearts. There must have been some doubt in South's mind that West would lead the ace of clubs, but he was confident enough to bid the grand slam based on the inference that his partner's leap to slam should include one ace. (His five-diamond cuebid had told his partner that the ace of diamonds was not an important card.)

In the Open Room, it was much more difficult for South. After the strong-club opening and the three-club preempt, Wolff (North) bid three diamonds. East jumped to five clubs and South had yet to mention a suit! Notice here the difference in the two auctions, how in the Closed Room hearts were agreed by North-South at the first round of the auction, while in the Open Room the auction was at the five level before hearts were mentioned. At this point, Hamman (South) did the best he could by passing (a forcing pass); and when his partner bid five diamonds, he bid five hearts. North now raised to six hearts, and some critics believe he should have cuebid six clubs along the way. Meanwhile, Hamman, looking at that losing jack of clubs, just couldn't bring himself to bid seven hearts, and that meant another swing to France and, 31 deals later, another world title.

A special Israel Simultaneous will be played at most clubs throughout the country this Saturday night. Contact your local duplicate club for more information. Matthew Granovetter can be reached at gran@netvision.net.il

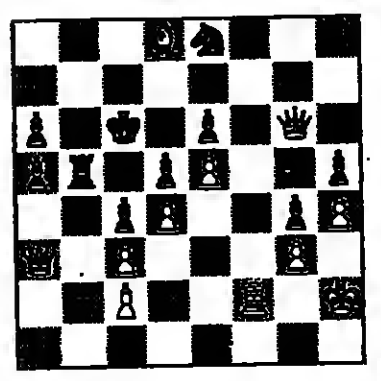
Chess

Chucky's back

By NIGEL SHORT

The Ukrainian grandmaster, Vassily Ivanchuk, is quite an original character. Regular readers of this column may recall how he feigned inebriation in order to win an important game against Veselin Topalov last year. With Chucky one is never exactly sure what is going to happen. In the first round of Dortmund, for instance, he reached the following position against Vistny Anand.

Black: (Ivanchuk) to play



White: Anand

The game ended at this point. Had I not seen Chucky hurriedly putting on his jacket and storming out of the building, and Anand staring round in total disbelief, I would have been sure that the game had ended in a draw. I approached Vistny.

"Did he resign?" I asked.

"Yes."

"Was he losing?"

"No."

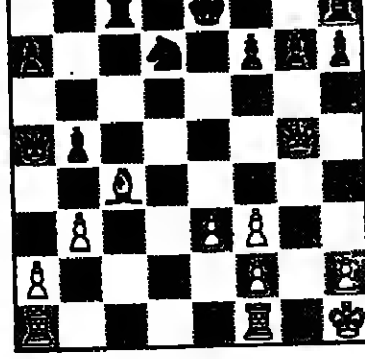
The following morning at breakfast, Anand was much more confident about his chances.

"Long term black is lost. With the combined threats against his king and the vulnerability of his pawn" (completely obvious, isn't

it?) "black cannot hold." I nodded in (sort of) comprehension. Two rounds later Ivanchuk produced another masterpiece, this time against Vladimir Kramnik.

White: Kramnik
Black: Ivanchuk
Dortmund, 1997
1. Nf3 Nf6 2. e4 c6 3. Nc3 d5 4. d4 e6 5. e3 Nbd7 6. Qc2 b6 7. Bd3 Bh7 8. 0-0 Be7 9. b3 Rb8 10. Bb2. At this moment, Ivanchuk had his one and only prolonged think of the game. 10...c5 11. exd5 exd4 12. dxe6 dxc3 13. exd7+ Nxe7 14. Bxc3 Bb4 15. Be4 Bxf3 16. gxf3 Bxc3 17. Qxc3 Qg5+ 18. Kh1 h5. Black appears to be winning a piece. Ivanchuk stood up confidently but moments later his opponent replied 19. Qa5!

Black: (Ivanchuk) to play

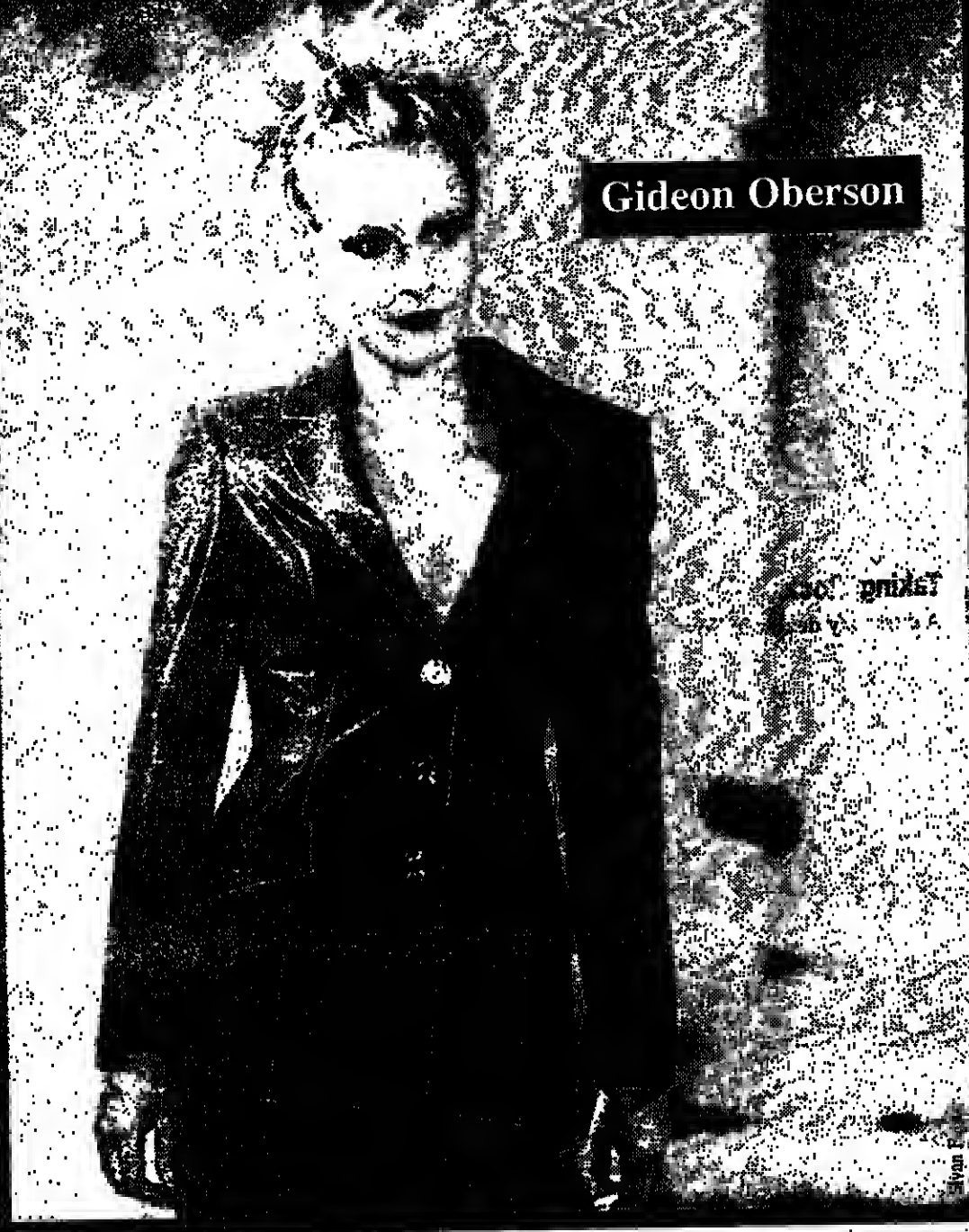


White: Kramnik

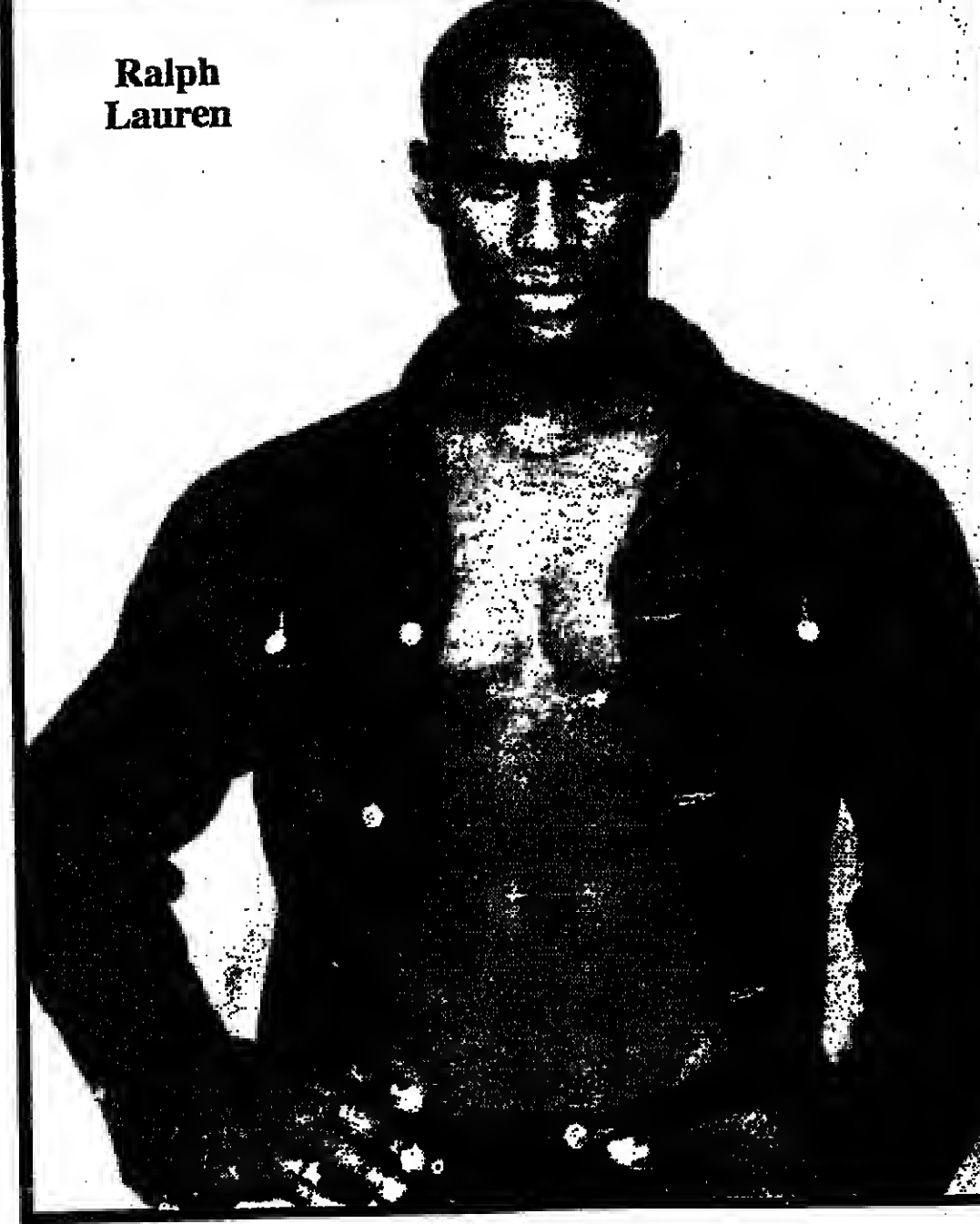
Shaking his head several times in astonishment (this riposte was extremely difficult to foresee on the tenth move) Chucky slumped back into his chair. By now many people were correctly predicting his next move. 19...Resigns. Incidentally Kramnik merely had to remember some analysis of Alexei Dreevi to score this victory. © Telegraph Group



Raziela



Gideon Oberson



Ralph Lauren

Weekend Leisure



Karen Oberson

Lifestyle VS. fashion

By GREER FAY CASHMAN

To the uninitiated, Ralph Lauren's Polo Sport and Jeans stores are just two more examples of upmarket retail outlets. To anyone who's never visited a Ralph Lauren store in the US or Europe, the prices will come as a shock - close to NIS 500 for a simple, 100 percent cotton turtleneck sweater. Worse still, the store's policy is: "If you can't pay for it, don't buy it." In other words, there's no installment plan to help the less affluent to change their image.

Ralph Lauren, two of his executives explained at the store's opening in Ramat Aviv last week, is not fashion but lifestyle.

Taking fashion writers on a tour of the elegant London-based premises, Desiree Bollier, director of Stores of the European Polo Retail Group, and Paris-based merchandise coordinator, Thierry Coupetant, injected new excitement into the classic basics by illustrating the development of a style concept based on Arctic challenges, golf, yoga, desert rallies, and so on.

The lines are all elegant but relaxed. The fabrics though luxurious and refined are all functional with a long shelf life. They won't wear out nearly as quickly as cheaper imitations. Each individual piece is strong. Together they make formidable combinations, exuding an aura of old traditions and new ideas, with an emphasis on detail and quiet sophistication. Though some items obviously cater to the young, there's a certain blurring of generation differences. After all, anyone can wear jeans and a sweatshirt.

Whenever we get dressed we try to coordinate the various items we choose to wear, but it takes a special knack to do it the way that Lauren has done. It's fascinating to trace the various inspirations and see them fall into place like a wearable jigsaw puzzle.

FASHION MORE than lifestyle characterizes the collections of Raziela Gershon and Gideon Oberson. Raziela's collection is so superb that her creative muse must have been working overtime. Unless a collection is a real bomb, there are always two or three garments deserving of applause. The opposite is true in Raziela's case. At most there are

two or three garments unworthy of accolades. It's rare that one would want to take home a whole collection, but frankly, if I had the money, I would take the lot. But with limited finances at my disposal, I'll settle for the generously cut cloche coat for which Raziela has not yet set a price. "I can't think about a price," she said a few days after the show. "There are seven meters of fabric in these coats."

Most of her collection is made up of straight-legged, long-jacketed pants suits in mannish fabrics but with feminine chic. The suits have matching straight-falling paneled coats.

Her formal wear runs the gamut from all-revealing to all-concealing, with the best results achieved with corsetlike tops.

The good news for the fashion conscious is that her sizes range from small to extra large with prices beginning at NIS 480 for blouses. However, they spiral to well over NIS 1,000 for dresses and coats.

Just as the most important feature in business is location, the most important feature in fashion, is detail. Here, Gideon Oberson has long proved himself to be a master. After all, if your forte is classic style, the novelty is provided primarily in the detail, such as the embroidered and beaded diamond-shaped applique-fastening on low-cut, often collarless jackets which look as if they've come straight out of a Hollywood movie.

On the runway, Oberson cleverly paired models in identically styled jackets over skirts and pants to give viewers a better sense of the versatility of the garments.

Black, the dominant color in the collection, was frequently teamed with brilliant jewel colors to the benefit of both. It was particularly effective as a beaded black tunic over a white strapless mini.

On a slightly less sophisticated level, Oberson's daughter Karen, who produces under her own KO label, brought out her plastic maxi coats with dramatic black stripes over red mini dresses. Considering that plastic was once considered cheap and a definite no-no in the true fashion stakes, it's decidedly come into its own - and looks stunning. Certainly any woman who wants her raincoat to be more than just a protective garment will be looking to the new tantalizing plastic creations as great options for making either an entry or an exit.

Thursday November 13, 1997

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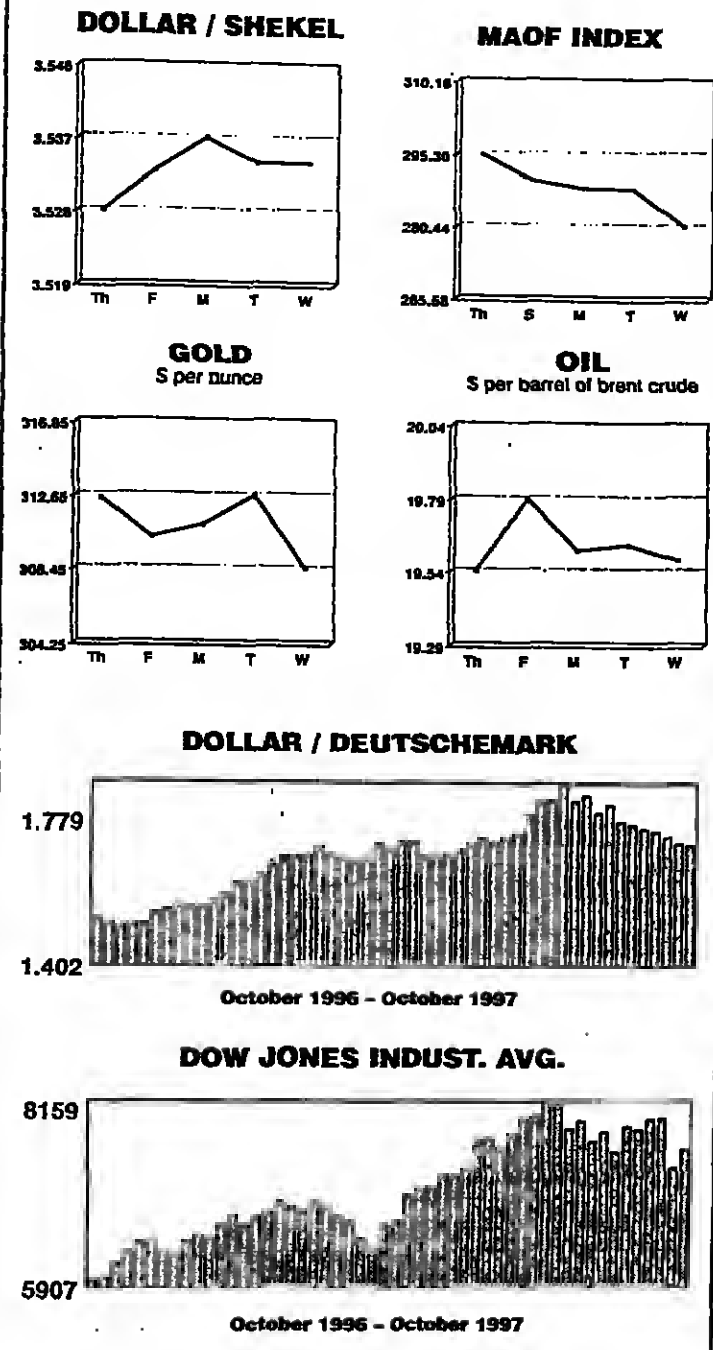
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Thursday
November 13, 1997

BUSINESS & FINANCE

MARKETS

in brief



IMF presents positive report on Israeli economy

By DAVID HARRIS

Israel's economy is "generally positive," and the medium-term prospects are "favorable," but only as long as the "right policies are pursued." These are the key findings of the International Monetary Fund's initial annual report on Israel published yesterday.

After ten days of meetings with politicians, businesspeople and economists, the IMF team-of-four handed its report to Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel.

The five-page document includes the following observations and recommendations:

- There is a clear turnaround in policies for the better, compared to the fiscal excesses witnessed under the previous Labor government. Fiscal policy is well on its way to meeting the deficit target despite difficult economic circumstances. Inflation too has been brought within the target range; the current-account deficit has become more manageable; high-tech industries have

recorded double-digit export growth and the slowdown in growth appears to have come to a halt.

- Growth this year has been "disappointing" as has the rise in unemployment. While Israel has additional concerns including security issues and immigration, lessons should have been learned from foreign examples that when excess demand exists it is very difficult to put the economy back on a sustainable track without "some transitional pain."
- The authorities have taken steps this past year to liberalize capital-account transactions. This is important, as is the government's issuance of debt securities in foreign markets separate from the US loan guarantees.
- The main challenge is now returning growth to an annual 4-5 percent on a sustained basis, which appears to be Israel's potential. At the same time, progress must be made on the inflation front.
- As the labor force growth slows, economic growth will have to rely on faster labor productivity growth, which can only be achieved through greater investment and technical progress.

- The government needs to do more than merely achieve its fiscal aim of a budget deficit of 1.5% of the gross domestic product by 2001. There is "a strong case for greater fiscal adjustment, namely to achieve, at a minimum, approximate balance in terms of the government's accounting system by 2001."
- The IMF team supports the government's efforts to contain salary increases in the public sector.
- The health care system could become an even larger drain in the short-term if immediate steps are not taken to improve the incentive structure and increasing operational efficiency, flexibility and competition.
- It is time to put long-held inflationary psychology to rest.
- There should be no reduction in the central bank key lending rate until after the

Knesset's approval of the 1998 state budget and its initial implementation.

- The government should declare the following inflation targets: 5-8% in 1999, 4-7% in 2000, 3-5% in 2001 and 2-4% in 2002.
- The Central Bureau of Statistics should alter its housing index to reflect rental prices, not sale prices.
- The central bank must remain independent.
- The Brodet report recommendations on reforming the capital markets have not been implemented. While it may not be necessary to act on all the recommendations, something must be done now, including pension fund reform.
- It is now time for Israel to act as part of the advanced world and "play its leadership role in promoting better economic performance world over through its own unwavering efforts to stick to appropriate policies."

A final version of the report will be prepared in Washington in the coming months.



Taking stock
A currency dealer in Tokyo talks to a client after the US dollar jumped sharply above 125 yen during the day's trading. The increase was partly due to worries over the state of the Japanese economy. (Reuters)

ECI denies reports of merger with PairGain

By DAN GERSTENFELD

ECI Telecommunications president and CEO David Rubner said yesterday that the company is not negotiating with any company about a merger.

Rubner denied a report in yesterday's *Ha'aretz* that for the past three months the company has been talking with PairGain Technologies, a leading US communications company, about the possibility of a merger or acquisition that would be the biggest deal yet between an Israeli and foreign company.

"This is simply not true. We [have been in contact with] PairGain since 1992, but there were no talks in the last three months on a possible merger," Rubner said.

He added, however, that the company constantly is looking for acquisition targets.

"We have a mergers and acquisitions department which looks at

close to 100 companies a year. We believe in M&A and we have done it in the past. But, at present, there is nothing concrete," he said.

Rubner also denied previous press reports that ECI was considering a merger with Tadiran Telecommunications. In recent months, there have been rumors that Claridge Israel, which transferred its 10.4% holding in ECI to Koor Industries, is interested in a merger between ECI and Tadiran, which is a Koor subsidiary. Koor sources have stated in the past that they are interested in acquiring Clal Israel's 25.8% stake in ECI.

"Tadiran is our neighbor [in Petah Tikva] and we are cooperating in a few fields, but there are no talks over a possible merger," Rubner said. "In the future, we might decide to consider such a merger. In any case, the decision will not be taken by the Claridge Group, but by the company's board of directors based on the interests of ECI."

Israel mulls retaliation in orange juice dispute with EU

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Israel will consider retaliatory measures should the European Union persist with aggressive measures against Israeli exports, Zohar Perry, the head of the foreign relations department of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said yesterday.

"If the situation snowballs, than why shouldn't we check their goods, too?" Perry said.

During a meeting yesterday, Foreign Minister David Levy and European Union President Jacques Poos agreed that Israel and the EU should set a meeting for as soon as

possible to resolve the country-of-origin dispute over orange juice that heated up two days ago.

On Tuesday, the EU issued a warning on the Internet to European importers saying that some Israeli products may not comply with free-trade stipulations. It was the latest step in a four-year battle over EU allegations that Israel was using oranges from elsewhere in juice concentrate that it ships to Europe.

The EU contends that Israel's refusal to grant them access to exporters' documents casts doubt on the authenticity of country-of-

origin certificates Israel provides when selling goods in Europe.

Israeli officials expressed surprise over the country-of-origin dispute. Minister of Industry and Trade Natan Sharansky accused the EU of exploiting the issue to express dismay over the political situation.

An EU official called the claim "baloney."

"The discussions which have taken place with Israel over the last few months never reached a satisfactory conclusion," the official said.

Perry said that sorting out the country-of-origin issue for orange

juice would require sifting through the books of individual companies, several of which have been reorganized or gone out of business.

Perry blamed the EU for recent complications in the negotiations. He said that on November 3, the EU canceled a November 14 meeting in Brussels, asking to reschedule for November 5.

Exports to Europe total 32% of all Israeli sales abroad. Israel has a negative trade balance with the EU with exports totaling \$4b. in the first seven months of 1997 and imports amounting to \$8.6b.

European, US drug industries threaten to cut R&D

By JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

The European and American pharmaceutical industries yesterday threatened to cut their local investments if Israel revises the current Patent Law.

A draft of the revised law passed its first reading in the Knesset in October.

The law currently bars Israeli companies from conducting research on drugs whose patents have not yet expired, giving US and European companies, which are not subject to such law, a head start in developing generic drugs.

European and US pharmaceutical agencies have appealed to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to "review the proposed draft, saying that the Knesset is "under the pressure of Teva" Pharmaceutical Industries.

Teva, Israel's largest drug maker and a worldwide leader in the generic drug market, has been trying to change the patent law since it was passed in 1994. The company previously said it is considering moving part of its research and development operations overseas in order to bypass the Patent Law.

Chief Scientist Orna Berry and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky also have appealed to the Justice Ministry to revise the law.

During a recent visit to Israel, US Congressman Charles Schumer said the current Patent Law was the result of American pressure. He said the law hurts both Israeli drug manufacturers and American consumers, who benefit from the cheaper generic products.

The Knesset is to conduct second and third readings of the revision in the upcoming months.

Treasury OKs mutual funds investment abroad

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Doron Shorer, the Finance Ministry's supervisor of capital markets and insurance, said yesterday that mutual funds would be allowed to raise their holding in foreign currency and foreign stocks and options to 50 percent of their total assets.

Until now each mutual fund management was permitted to manage only two funds that could invest overseas.

Industry sources said that most of the mutual funds managements would prefer to wait for a while until the Treasury and the Bank of Israel remove further restrictions concerning foreign currency transactions. The sources estimated that the big banks and most of the leading brokerage firms would decide on the opening of at least one new fund specializing in overseas investments.

Meanwhile, Shorer also said that he has informed Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman that he wishes to quit his post and move to the private sector. Shorer plans to resign in February 1998.

PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 11.11.97
Purchase Price: 119.38
Redemption Price: 117.82

TARGET טרגט
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents
Date: 11.11.97
Purchase Price: 131.65
Redemption Price: 129.74

Finance Ministry to set sale timetable for Leumi, Discount

By DAVID HARRIS

The government will sell its controlling interests in Bank Leumi and Israel Discount Bank to private investors before the end of 1999, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman decided yesterday at a meeting with senior ministry officials and executives from MI Holdings.

Controlling shares in Bank Leumi will be sold first followed immediately by the flotation of shares in Discount. The remaining government shares in these banks and those in Bank Hapoalim, United Mizrahi Bank and Union Bank of Israel will be floated on stock exchanges in Israel and abroad.

Various methods of privatization were considered during the meeting, but it was concluded that the above program would be the most cost-effective and competitive while being relatively secure.

"So far no one has expressed interest in Leumi," said Meir Yacobson, the director of MI Holdings, the company charged with selling the government's banking holdings. Asked whether the Keil-Fishman group, which bid for control of Bank Hapoalim, is a likely contender, Yacobson replied: "If they make an approach, we'll be very happy."

At the meeting, Accountant General Shai Talmon said that a detailed program and timetable would be completed in the next few days. These would include the process of sale of controlling shares, the size of the controlling shares, and the timetables for the various flotations. A discussion is also scheduled soon at MI Holdings.

The government currently holds the following stakes in the banks: Hapoalim, 12.3 percent, Leumi 63.5%, Discount 51.5%, Mizrahi 46% and Union 23%.

Elbit signs \$38 million contract with Daimler-Benz

By STEVE RODAN

Elbit Systems Ltd. has signed a \$38 million contract with Daimler-Benz Aerospace AG, Munich (DASA) for the supply of computer display terminals and avionics equipment to upgrade of the Greek Air Force's fleet of F-4s, defense sources said yesterday.

They said the contract would extend over the next three years.

Elbit would not say who the contract was with. The company president, Joseph Ackerman called the deal with DASA a break-

through for his Haifa-based company. "It paves the way for the establishment of cooperation with the chief industry in Germany," he said.

Defense sources identified DASA's client as the Greek Air Force, which is upgrading its F-4s and negotiating for the purchase of American or European aircraft. Daimler-Benz is the lead contractor for the upgrade.

Ackerman said the contract fits in other work by Elbit for Western European countries and other NATO members.

"We expect that the new project will comprise a basis for the expansion of cooperation with DASA and will contribute to the deepening of our presence in Western Europe," he said.

The contract's announcement came as the company reported a 40% increase in net profits for the third quarter of 1997 over the same period last year. Revenues for the company, traded on both the Tel Aviv and New York exchanges, were reported at \$91.1 million, a 17.2% increase over the same period last year.

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RETZEF CONTINUOUS TRADING ISSUES

Table with columns: Symbol, Last, Change. Includes Agri, Oci, Ulan, etc.

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Main table of market data with columns: Symbol, Last, Change. Includes Hachol 5, Hachol Bond A, Hachol Bond B, etc.

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LAST CHANGE

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LAST CHANGE

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LAST CHANGE

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*In local currencies

SPORTS

in brief

Saudi Arabia qualify for World Cup finals

DOHA, Qatar (AP) - Saudi Arabia qualified for the World Cup finals yesterday for the second successive time after beating Qatar 1-0 in the last match of Asia's Group A.

Free kicks the difference as Brazil beat Wales 3-0

BRASILIA (Reuters) - Brazil made the most of their expertise at free kicks as they recorded a flattering 3-0 win over Wales in a friendly international on Tuesday.

Two perfectly taken free kicks by Rivaldo and Rodrigo either side of halftime settled the game after Zinho had put Brazil ahead in the 32nd minute.

FIFA to appoint 33 referees for France '98

ZURICH (Reuters) - The number of referees officiating at next year's World Cup will increase from 24 in 1994 to 33, FIFA said on Tuesday.

They will handle 64 matches, compared to the 24 officials who were in charge of the 52 games in USA '94.

Marlins deal Alou to Astros

MIAMI (AP) - The Florida Marlins began the breakup of their World Series championship team on Tuesday, trading Moises Alou to the Houston Astros for minor-league right-handers Oscar Henriquez and Manuel Barrios and a player to be named.

The deal was made just before the deadline for freezing rosters for the Nov. 18 expansion draft.

Florida owner H. Wayne Huizenga plans to sell the Marlins to a group headed by team president Don Smiley, and the two have vowed to cut the payroll to below \$20 million next season, virtually assuring Florida will become a low-drawing oon-cootender.

SCOREBOARD

SOCCER - France beat Scotland 2-1 in friendly international in St-Etienne last night. Soccer: France - Pierre Lafite 35, Yvon Djordjevic 73 (pen). Scotland - Gordon Durie 36. Attendance: 20,000.

Kemp scores 21 as Cavs crush Bulls 101-80

CLEVELAND (AP) - Shawn Kemp scored 21 points and the new-look Cavaliers blew out the struggling Bulls 101-80 Tuesday night, one of Cleveland's most convincing victories over Chicago in the Michael Jordan era.

The Bulls, without the injured Scottie Pippen and with Dennis Rodman still trying to find his form, dropped to 4-3 and remained winless on the road as they seek a sixth NBA title this decade.

The Cavaliers, running and gunning more than the Bulls have seen in years, got 36 points from their bench and held Chicago to 37 percent shooting.

Jordan, coming off a season-long 15 points against New Jersey, had 19 points on 7-for-17 shooting. He could only watch as rookie Dennis Anderson threw down a double-pump, Jordan-like dunk to put an exclamation point on the victory.

Rodman played 17 minutes in his second start and did not take a shot or score a point. He had five rebounds and only two minor run-ins with Violet Palmer, one of two women referees in the league this season.

Hawks 89, Sonics 87
In Atlanta, the Hawks improved to 7-0 when Steve Smith hit a turnaround jumper from 16 feet (5 meters) with 4.9 seconds remaining. Gary Payton had a chance to tie for the Sonics, driving into the lane as time was running down. But his left-handed layup hit the rim three times before bouncing out as the horn sounded.

The Sonics were held scoreless after Detlef Schrempf made two free throws with 4:07 left to push his team to an 87-80 lead.

Atlanta finished with a 9-0 run, capped by Smith's basket over Schrempf missed a shot soon in the lane with 26 seconds remaining. Smith scored 21 points to lead the Hawks.

Vin Baker led the Sonics with 17 points and Schrempf had 16.

Heat 101, Kings 82
In Miami, Isaac Austin scored 24 points and P.J. Brown grabbed a career-high 18 rebounds for Miami.

Reserve forward Mark Strickland, receiving extra playing time with Jamal Mashburn injured, scored 10 of his career-high 14 points in the first half for the Heat. Mitch Richmond scored 17 points to lead the Kings.

EASTERN CONFERENCE					WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division					Midwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB		W	L	Pct	GB	
New Jersey	4	1	.800	-	San Antonio	6	1	.857	-
Miami	5	2	.714	-	Minnesota	4	2	.667	1 1/2
New York	4	3	.571	1	Houston	4	2	.600	2
Otawo	3	3	.500	1 1/2	Dallas	3	3	.500	2 1/2
Washington	2	4	.333	2 1/2	Vancouver	3	4	.429	3
Boston	1	5	.167	3 1/2	Utah	2	4	.333	3 1/2
Philadelphia	0	5	.000	4	Denver	0	5	.000	5
Central Division					Pacific Division				
Atlanta	7	0	1.000	-	LA Lakers	5	0	1.000	-
Milwaukee	4	1	.800	2 1/2	Portland	5	1	.833	-
Chicago	4	2	.667	2 1/2	Phoenix	3	1	.750	1 1/2
Charlotte	4	3	.571	3	Seattle	5	2	.714	1
Cleveland	3	3	.500	3 1/2	LA Clippers	1	5	.167	4 1/2
Indiana	2	4	.333	4 1/2	Sacramento	1	5	.167	4 1/2
Detroit	2	4	.333	4 1/2	Oakland State	0	6	.000	5
Toronto	1	5	.167	5					

Tuesday's Games: New York 93, Denver 90; Miami 101, Sacramento 82; Atlanta 99, Seattle 87; Cleveland 101, Chicago 85; San Antonio 93, Minnesota 92; LA Lakers 118, Dallas 96; Vancouver 119, LA Clippers 113.

NBA signs \$2.6 billion TV deal with NBC, Turner

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The National Basketball Association has extended its television package with NBC and Turner Sports through the 2001-2002 season at a price of \$2.6 billion, NBA Commissioner David Stern said Tuesday.

NBC's portion of the deal for network broadcast rights will cost \$1.75 billion, while Turner Sports, a unit of Time Warner Inc., will pay \$890 million for the cable rights, Stern told a news conference.

The exclusive contract calls for increased telecasts of games for both Turner Sports and NBC, with NBC

adding more playoff games to its lineup.

Turner Sports, which broadcasts the games on Turner Network Television and TBS Superstation, will increase its regular season telecasts to as many as 80 games, up from the 70 per season under the previous contract.

NBC and Turner's current four-year contract with the league ends after the 1998 NBA Finals.

NBC has had the broadcast contract with the NBA since the 1990-91 season, while Turner Broadcasting has been airing NBA games for 14 seasons.

Billington stops 32; Avalanche beat Red Wings 2-0

DETROIT (AP) - Reserve goalie Craig Billington made 32 saves, and Rene Corbet and Eric Messier scored third-period goals as the Colorado Avalanche beat the Detroit Red Wings 2-0 Tuesday night.

It was the first meeting of the season between the teams who not only have won the last two Stanley Cup titles, but have established one of the NHL's best rivalries as well.

The teams also don't like each other, and they proved it quickly when Colorado's Claude Lemieux and Detroit's Darren McCarty drew an old feud just three seconds into the game.

Lemieux and McCarty dropped their gloves almost immediately after the opening faceoff and fought toe-to-toe for about a minute before wrestling each other to the ice. Each player was given a five-minute penalty for fighting and a 10-minute misconduct.

Billington earned his seventh career shutout while making a rare start in place of Patrick Roy.

Flyers 1, Senators 0
In Philadelphia, Ron Hextall kicked out 16 shots, and Paul Coffey scored in the second period as Philadelphia extended its winning streak to four games and its unbeaten streak to six.

Hextall withstood five Ottawa power plays for his first shutout of the season and 20th of his career. He was making his first start since Nov. 2, when he strained his neck and back in a collision with Coffey.

It was the first time the Senators have been shut out this season, and their second loss to the Flyers in four nights.

Philadelphia has killed 17 of 18 penalties in the last five games. Ottawa has scored on just two of 30 power-play opportunities in the last six games.

Coffey beat Damian Rhodes after taking a pass from Rod Brind'Amour.

Maple Leafs 5, Blackhawks 2
In Toronto, Igor Koriyev scored twice as Toronto rallied to snap Chicago's six-game unbeaten streak.

Jason Smith, Fredrik Modin and Darby Hindrickson also scored for the Leafs, who won for only the second time in eight home games.

Bob Probert and Greg Johnson scored for the Blackhawks, 5-0-1 in their previous six games.

Modin tied the game at 2-2 with his first goal since March 15, at 4:56 of the second period. Then Koriyev scored a decisive power-play goal from a scramble in front of Chris Terzer with 3:27 left in the period.

Tuesday's games: Philadelphia 1, Ottawa 0; Toronto 5, Chicago 2; Colorado 2, Detroit 0; Phoenix 5, Tampa Bay 2; Los Angeles 8, Vancouver 2.

Philadelphia 11, St. Louis 12, Dallas 10, Phoenix 8, Chicago 7, Toronto 5, Colorado 9, Anaheim 8, Los Angeles 8, Edmonton 9, San Jose 6, Carolina 8, Calgary 5, Buffalo 5.

Philadelphia 11, St. Louis 12, Dallas 10, Phoenix 8, Chicago 7, Toronto 5, Colorado 9, Anaheim 8, Los Angeles 8, Edmonton 9, San Jose 6, Carolina 8, Calgary 5, Buffalo 5.

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Martinez breaks Braves' Cy Young monopoly



CANADIAN CLUB - Montreal's Pedro Martinez joins Toronto's Roger Clemens in a Canadian Cy Young Award sweep.

NEW YORK (Reuters) - The Montreal Expos' Pedro Martinez won the National League Cy Young Award Tuesday, ending the Atlanta Braves' stranglehold on the award and further enhancing his value in baseball's offseason trading market. Martinez, the first pitcher in 25 years to combine an earned run average under 2.00 with 300 strikeouts, won in convincing fashion over the Braves' Greg Maddux and Denny Neagle.

"I'm excited and really proud to be named," said Martinez. "Competing with Greg Maddux, you have to be real happy. I know he's the best in the decade. If I'm the best right now, it'll be for a year, but I don't consider myself that." Martinez, a native of the Dominican Republic, honored a countryman who paved the way to the major leagues.

"I'm dedicating this award to Mr. Juan Marichal, because he didn't get it," Martinez said of the star pitcher of the 1960s and '70s. Martinez was 17-8 with 305 strikeouts and a 1.90 ERA, lowest in the majors. He is the first pitcher since Steve Carlton of the 1972 Phillies to fan 300 in a season while recording an ERA below 2.00.

Opponents hit just 184 off Martinez, who also led the majors with 13 complete games while getting extremely poor offensive support, little help from his bullpen and barely adequate backing in the field.

"I think that the ERA and the 305 strikeouts really shine on top of everything," Martinez said. "I'm glad I can get shutouts, complete games, but getting 300 strikeouts with that ERA is really tough to get."

The hard-throwing righthander received 25 first-place votes from a panel of the Baseball Writers Association of America. He was the only pitcher named on all 28 ballots and received 134 points, becoming the first member of the Expos to win the award.

But he may not be an Expo for much longer. Among the teams reported to be interested in acquiring Martinez by making a trade with the cash-poor Expos are the New York Yankees and Mets, the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Cleveland Indians.

"I'm more sad than mad at the Montreal organization," Martinez remarked. "I know that this is their politics and that's the way they do things. I knew that when I came here, I'm used to that." Pitchers currently on the Braves' staff had won the last six NL Cy

Young Awards, including four in a row by Maddux, who received the remaining three first-place votes and 75 points but was defeated a record fifth trophy. Neagle, the Atlanta left-hander who led the NL with 20 wins, was third with 24 points.

Philadelphia Phillies right-hander Curt Schilling, who won 17 games and struck out a major league-best 319 batters for a first-place vote, received 12 points.

Darryl Kile of the Houston Astros received seven points to complete the balloting.

Maddux was 19-4 with a 2.27 ERA, finishing second in wins and ERA. The premier pitcher of the 1990s struck out 177 and walked just 20 in 232 2/3 innings.

Neagle was 20-5 with a 2.97 ERA in his first full season with the Braves. He was the first N.L. left-hander to win 20 games since the Braves' Tom Glavine did it in 1993.

Schilling was 17-11 with a 2.97 ERA and was a consistent bright spot in a difficult season for the Phillies. He set an NL mark for strikeouts by a right-hander and became the first Phillies pitcher to lead that category since Carlton.

Kile was a career-best 19-7 and third in the N.L. with a 2.57 ERA. He was second with 255 2/3 innings pitched and struck out 205 batters but walked 94, second-most in the league.

After Glavine won the 1991 N.L. Cy Young, Maddux won the following year as a member of the Chicago Cubs. He joined the Braves as a free agent and captured the next three awards as well before his unprecedented run of four in a row was ended last year by Atlanta right-hander John Smoltz.

Canada's other major-league team, the Toronto Blue Jays, claimed the other Cy Young Award on Monday when right-hander Roger Clemens won the American League Cy Young for an unprecedented fourth time.

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Galil Elyon clinches Korac group

By ELI GRONER

Galil Elyon have clinched first place in Group 5 of the Korac Cup competition after defeating Romanian champions Dinamo Bucharest 86-77 last night in the north. The win upped the northmen's record to a perfect 5-0 in the first stage of play.

A 21-6 run in the middle of the second half was the game's turning point, as David Blatt's club recovered from a 57-48 deficit to seize a 69-63 advantage.

"We started the game lackadaisically, but at halftime we got focused and our collective heart carried us from there," said Elyon.

Andrew Kennedy and Gur Shelef led the victors with 25 and 20 points, respectively.

It was Galil's good fortune that it played against the overmatched Romanians. The Israelis' sloppy first-half play manifested itself in 13 turnovers (21 overall). The northmen were able to overcome their sluggishness with a 32-16 rebound advantage and 19 team assists.

Virgil Karutasu paced Belgrade with 22 points.

In another Korac Cup games last night, Maccabi Herzliya was eliminated in Group 2 after going down 72-71 to Red Star Belgrade of Yugoslavia.

Israel bowlers show indoor promise in Jersey

By NORMAN SPIRO

St. HELENS, Jersey - Israel's lawn bowlers participating in their first-ever international indoor tournament here acquitted themselves honorably and earned all-round applause for some credible performances - their experienced opponents were kept on their toes and final scores giving but little credit to the Israeli's efforts.

Most successful for the men were George Kaminsky and Yair Lieberthal who won three of their five pairs games, beating Jersey, Guernsey and England, the latter 24-20 win an outstanding effort after trailing 14-20 against previous English Champions David Holt and Brett Morley.

Yair Bekier with Colin Silberstein and Michael Sturge recorded one win against Guernsey, but adapted themselves remarkably well to unfamiliar conditions.

The women improved as the games proceeded. The triples team of Rene Kusman, Tammy Kamzel and Naomi Fix, had an exciting 18-17 win over Jean Lowry's Jersey side and against Ireland's world pairs Champion, Phyllis Nolan, lost 12-11.

Nolan, getting the two winning shots in the very last head.

Arlene Rubin and Shirley Kantor always offered stout resistance but were unfortunate not to record a win.

Boycotts no use, Lewis tells Australians

SYDNEY (Reuters) - Carl Lewis spoke out yesterday against a call for Australia's most famous black athlete to boycott the 2000 Sydney Olympics, telling her she had to fight her battles on the track.

A group of Aboriginal elders from Western Australia state called at the weekend for world 400 meters champion Cathy Freeman to boycott the 2000 Games in protest at the national government's stance on indigenous land rights.

"Being a veteran of two boycotts, in 1980 when we did not go and in 1984 when other countries boycotted the Olympics, I don't know what they really achieved," Lewis told a joint news conference with Freeman at the Sydney Olympic site.

"I was raised to be a part of it, to go

out and make a difference, not to stand back and be silent. If you want to make a difference, be out there, be seen, try and influence the decision-making process." U.S. sprinter and long jumper Lewis won a record-equaling nine gold medals in five Olympics between 1976 and 1996.

Freeman, 24, won popular acclaim at home when she carried the Aboriginal and Australian flags on her victory lap at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Canada.

She has since become the public face of black-white reconciliation. But she has refused to respond publicly to the demand by the Nyungah Circle of Elders that she boycott the Sydney Games in protest at legislation that would effectively strip Aborigines of newly-won land rights.

Abredeen player sent off three times in one match

GLASGOW (Reuters) - Aberdeen forward Dean Windass was sent off three times in a six-match ban yesterday after being "sent off" three times against Dundee United on Sunday.

The Scottish Football Association acted after the report from referee Stuart Dougal confirmed that Windass was effectively dismissed three times in the opening half of Aberdeen's 5-0 defeat - earning an unprecedented 22 penalty points from one match.

The 28-year-old Englishman will now be sidelined until December 27 - as well as being fined two weeks salary by his club. He was initially sent off for two bookable offences, but his initial dismissal at referee Dougal earned the equivalent of another red card.

On his way to the tunnel, Windass lost his temper entirely, pulling up a corner flag, and ripping the flag to pieces before throwing it to the ground - which earned him another eight point penalty.

The defeat hastened the departure of coach Roy Aitken from the club. He was sacked on Monday.

Sampras, Kafelnikov, Rafter notch wins

HANNOVER (AP) - Pete Sampras took advantage Wednesday of a format that offers losers a second chance and stayed on course for his fourth ATP Tour World Championship title by beating Greg Rusedski.

Rebounding from a surprise three-set loss to Carlos Moya a day earlier, Sampras, defending champion and No. 1 in the world, downed big-serving Rusedski 6-4, 7-5.

"Yesterday, I really felt flat, mentally and physically," Sampras said. "I had a lot more energy today." The \$3.3-million tournament brings together the top eight players in the world, split into two groups. The top two from each group advance to the semifinals.

Because of the round-robin format in the groups, Sampras didn't have to pack his bags after losing to Moya.

In each of the three years he won the title, Sampras lost a match in the round-robin portion of the event.

"Things are definitely looking a lot better," said Sampras, who could have been eliminated by another loss.

After making 50 unforced errors against Moya, Sampras made only nine against the Canadian-born lefthander.

"Coming into the match, I knew it was make it or break it," said Sampras, whose tour-leading seven titles this year include Wimbledon and the Australian Open.

"I returned well against one of the biggest servers. I played a very solid game today. I felt like a new player." In a match featuring two newcomers to the elite season-ending tournament, Yevgeny Kafelnikov beat Jonas Bjorkman 6-3, 7-6 (8-6).

Patrick Rafter, the No. 3 in the world, needed only 56 minutes to best Moya 6-4, 6-2. Rafter had never beaten Moya in three previous career matches.

Playing on a hard court similar to the surface on which he won the US Open, Rafter broke Moya to



REBOUNDING ACE - Pete Sampras rediscovered his winning ways against Greg Rusedski at the ATP World Championships in Hannover yesterday.

win the first set, after the seventi-ranked Spaniard sent a backhand wide.

A spectacular backhand passing shot by Rafter set up another break point and he got it when Moya's forehand sailed wide, giving the Australian a decisive 2-0 lead in the second set.

Rafter, who never faced a break point on his serve, held two match points when Moya's backhand hit the net. Moya saved the first with an overhead smash, but Rafter then clinched the match with another backhand winner, this time a cross-court passing shot that kissed the line.

Sampras and Rafter will have a day off before clashing tomorrow. Rusedski blasted an ace for a promising start of the match, but dropped his serve after a couple of volley errors in the fifth game.

Just before serving for the set, Sampras needed a three-minute timeout to stop a nose bleed. But it didn't affect his game.

"He played well and served better," said Rusedski, who began the year ranked No. 48 and has shot up to No. 5. The US Open finalist is the first British representative in the history of the tournament.

In the second set, a double fault by Rusedski set up a break point for Sampras and he converted it by blasting a return winner for a 6-5 lead. Sampras then served out the match, winning when Rusedski's backhand ended in the net.

"I woke up this morning with my right hamstring tight," Rusedski said. "It hurt my movement today and he knows how to take advantage of that. Playing Sampras when you are not 100 percent is not the best thing." Rusedski fired 12 aces, while Sampras had only three, but Rusedski also had eight double faults, while the American had none. Rusedski is now 0-2 in the tournament and on the verge of elimination. He also fell to 0-6 in his career against Sampras.

Kafelnikov, No. 6, and Bjorkman, No. 4 are coming off tournament victories in their native countries, Kafelnikov in Moscow and Bjorkman in Stockholm.

"I think my chances are now 90 percent that I will go through," said Kafelnikov, whose group also includes world No. 2 Michael Chang and Sergi Bruguera.

Regardless of the outcome of the tournament, Sampras is assured of finishing as No. 1 in the world for the fifth straight year, a record he shares with Jimmy Connors.

Today, Moya plays Rusedski, while in the other group Chang meets Kafelnikov and Bruguera battles Bjorkman.

Hapoel Jerusalem looking for some Turkish delight vs. Ulker

By ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Hapoel Jerusalem gets a chance to pick on someone their own size, so to speak, in tonight's EuroLeague matchup vs. Ulker of Turkey (Sports Channel, 17:50).

While Jerusalem has registered just one EuroLeague triumph so far this season, Ulker hasn't fared much better, with a 2-4 record. So while Jerusalem has been out of their league in games against Barcelona or Kinder Bologna, they should have a good shot against Ulker, whom they beat for their only EuroLeague triumph, 80-74, in September at Malha.

A victory is extremely important for Jerusalem to have any kind of chance of finishing in the third spot in Group C. First place appears certain to go to Kinder Bologna, while Barcelona has a good shot at the No. 2 slot. The third spot is still up for grabs, with Partizan, Ulker, Pau-Orthez and Jerusalem all in the running, which would give them easier opponents in the second round of the competition.

The Turks are no pushovers, however, especially at home. Add to that Kenny Williams's back woes, which may limit his mobility tonight, and Jerusalem is still facing a very stiff challenge.

Ulker has three fine players in

point guard Michael Anderson, Harun Ertedany and Kenny Green. Anderson had 19 against Jerusalem last time, and was particularly effective slicing to the basket and drawing fouls which he almost always converted at the free throw line. Anderson is less of a threat from the field, where he's only hitting 41.2% from two point range and is only 1-9 from beyond the arc.

Ertedany is the most dangerous member of the Turkish club, averaging 19.5 points per game, and is 15-30 from three-point range. Green is averaging seven rebounds per game, and 15.3 ppg.

Haluk Yildirim is an outside threat, but while big man Kevin Rankin played well vs. Jerusalem in the first game, he is far from being a dominating inside player.

Williams's condition is the key to Jerusalem's chances, and team doctors were working on getting him ready to play. The gutsy Williams was on court for most of Sunday night's home victory over Hapoel Holon, despite severe back pain, and it's unlikely the former Brooklyn boy will beg off tonight.

Jerusalem desperately needs his 15.2 ppg and almost nine boards a game, since the capital squad has very limited help when it comes to big men on the bench. Eyal Hai saw more action last week against

Bologna than he has in some time, and may replace Jesse Rosenfeld as the first option off the bench up front.

H. Waldman was the hero of the first game vs. Ulker, and new coach Effie Birnbaum shouldn't forget him now that he's banded Doron Shefa Waldman's starting spot in the backcourt alongside Adi Gordon. Waldman is far more capable of stopping Anderson than Shefa.

Adi Gordon is still looking for his first break-out game in the EuroLeague, and is a woeful 9-33 from three-point range. Motti Daniel had a fine game against Holon and looks like he's returned to form, which should also buoy Jerusalem's chances.

Apart from last week's game against Kinder, when they were totally overwhelmed from the start after Radisav Curcic got into foul trouble, Jerusalem has looked far more disciplined under Birnbaum. They will need that discipline if they are to keep their heads in what is certain to be a very, very loud arena.

EuroLeague Group C	W	L	Pts.
Kinder Bologna	5	1	11
Partizan Belgrade	4	2	10
Barcelona	3	3	8
Ulker	2	4	8
Pau-Orthez	2	3	7
Hapoel Jerusalem	1	5	7

Maccabi finds itself in a Real tough spot

By BRIAN FREEMAN

If Maccabi Tel Aviv is looking for a place to get its European game back on track tonight, it could not have picked a worse venue than Madrid against Real.

Despite Maccabi's long tradition of success in Europe, including capturing the title in 1977 and 1981, Tel Aviv has managed to beat Real on its home court only once (1987) in 15 all-time attempts.

In fact, Real loves to play in Madrid against everyone, starting the season with a 29-4 home mark in EuroLeague play this decade. Although this season Real stumbled to a 0-4 start, including two home losses, the team has rebounded to win its last two outings in Europe and has also surged to the top of the tough Spanish league with a 10-1 record following a 91-73 victory over Barcelona.

Maccabi's 87-82 victory over Real at Yad Eliahu in September seems like light years away.

Tel Aviv played a nearly flawless first half that night en route to a 22-point advantage at one stage, as Maccabi established an early inside game and then proceeded to sink seven straight three-point shots.

Defensively, the Israelis clamped down on Real's various offensive weapons and was able to control the boards against the Spanish big men.

But since that victory, the Maccabi machine has been stuck in reverse, losing four consecutive games in Europe and two league contests. Not since the disastrous 1992/93 season - in which Tel Aviv lost the league championship and did not qualify for the EuroLeague - has Maccabi suffered so many losses so early in the season.

The situation only worsened this week, as Maccabi not only suffered a humiliating defeat to Bnei Herzliya but also had both Rashard Griffin and Nadav Henefeld go down with back injuries.

Fortunately for Maccabi, Group A is so top-heavy with Olympiakos at

6-1 that the Israelis still have a shot, even with a loss tonight, at finishing among the top three in the group and earning the right to play the bottom three clubs of Group B in the league's next stage.

But that goal cannot be accomplished without some victories soon, including wins on the road, where Maccabi has run its losing streak to eight games dating back to last season.

If Real continues playing the way it has recently, Maccabi will find it very difficult to cope with the disciplined Spaniards.

Maccabi succeeded in its first contest against Real this season to hold usually dangerous Joe Auluckas to only six points on 2-9 shooting from the field. But since then he has boosted his scoring average up to a team-leading 18.3 points, while shooting 63% from the field and grabbing 6.0 rebounds a game.

Dejan Bodiroga, who paced Real against Maccabi with 21 points and 6 rebounds, has continued having a

productive season, averaging 18.3 points and 5.8 rebounds, along with a team-high 87.2% (34-39) from the free-throw line.

One of Real's problems is a dearth of outside shooting, with Alberto Herreros the only consistent threat from three-point range. He is shooting 38.5% from that range, with his 10 field goals from outside the arc exactly half the entire team's total.

Herreros, at 11.0 points a game, and John Rogers, at 10.0, round out the Real players scoring in double figures.

Madrid holds a 20-12 all-time advantage over Maccabi in the championships.

The game is scheduled to be broadcast live tonight on Channel 1 starting a 20:45.

EuroLeague Group A	W	L	Pts.
Olympiakos	6	1	13
CSKA Moscow	4	3	11
Etas Pilsen	3	3	9
Maccabi Tel Aviv	2	4	8
Limoges	2	4	8
Real Madrid	1	4	8

